Hafa Adai!

# Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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**OPINION METER**

**This week's poll:**

**Do you intend to participate in the 24th Annual Red Cross Walkathon on Saturday, March 27?**

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

**Immigration Fix**

President Obama assures immigration advocates he remains committed to fixing the system.

NATION...Page 10

**Calm Manny**

Manny Pacquaio arrives at Cowboys Stadium in a bus covered with his likeness.

MAHARLIKA...Page 12

**Best Toys**

Imagine a stadium-sized toy pit. Add a marching band of clowns, storybook characters and an enormous inflatable Big Foot.

YOUNGSTYLE...Page 18

# 7.25 percent budget cut across all gov't agencies

## » Finance anticipates $13.15M shortfall for FY 2010

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial has ordered an immediate across-the-board 7.25 percent cut in the current budget of CNMI government agencies and offices, with the revision of projected revenues for Fiscal Year 2010 to just $137 million.

See BUDGET on Page 4

## ALUMNI MIXER

Members of the Northern Marianas College Alumni Association and NMC interim president Lorraine T. Cabrera, front center, held their first 2010 "mixer event" at the Pacific Islands Club on March 11, 2010. Aside from a perfect setting for the purpose of re-acquainting with former classmates and meeting new members, the event also unveiled the alumni card program, which is expected to benefit the alumni members. Prizes including lunch for two at Magellan's Restaurant and waterpark passes to the Wave Jungle were also distributed.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

# Those seeking info from the govt heartened by reversal on records

By MICHAEL DOYLE
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

**WASHINGTON**—One curious soul on Feb. 8, 2001, filed a Freedom of Information Act request with the State Department.

He or she is still awaiting a reply.

Nearly eight years have passed, making the early 2001 search for information one of the State Department's 10 oldest pending FOIA requests. While extreme, it also reflects how information flow slowed markedly during the Bush administration.

"In the past, it's been difficult even for a public agency like ourselves to obtain information that affects our operations," said Tom Birmingham, general manager of the Westlands Water District in Fresno, Calif.

As one of his first acts, President Barack Obama issued an order reversing his prede-

See THOSE on Page 4

# Fitial recalls Cabinet reappointments

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

## » Senate confirms 4 nominees, 1 'ceremonially'

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial recalled yesterday his reappointment of Cabinet members in line with Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham's legal opinion that appointees previously nominated by the governor and confirmed by the Senate need not go through the same process to be able to continue serving in the same capacity.

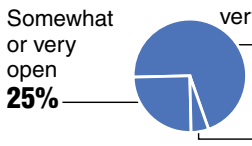
"This means those reappointed to the same position will now continue serving in permanent capac-

See FITIAL on Page 4

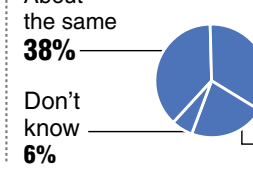
# Is the government secretive?

*How Americans feel about government secrecy and President Barack Obama's efforts at open government:*

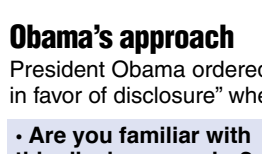
**• Is your local government open or secretive?**



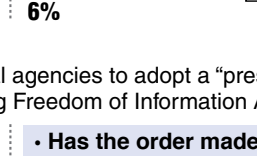

**• Is your state government open or secretive?**




**• Is the federal government open or secretive?**



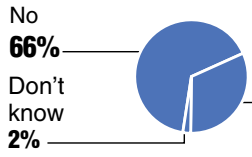

**• Level of secrecy under the Obama administration**



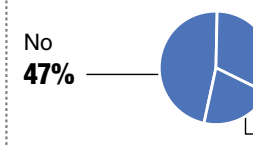

## Obama's approach

President Obama ordered all federal agencies to adopt a "presumption in favor of disclosure" when handling Freedom of Information Act requests

**• Are you familiar with this disclosure order?**




**• Has the order made federal agencies more open?***




*Asked of those who answered "yes" to being familiar with the order

Source: A Sunshine Week poll by Scripps Survey Research Center at Ohio University of 1,001 adults, Feb. 3-March 9, 2010; margin of error: +/-4 percentage points
Graphic: Judy Treible

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Judge allows release of kidnapping suspect. PAGE 3
BOE endorses renaming Rota school after Inos. PAGE 5

# Local

## $500 to $1,000 increase in poker fees on Rota pushed

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rep. Teresita A. Santos (Ind-Rota) introduced on Thursday a local bill that would raise the annual poker and pachinko slot machine local license fee by $500 in 2011, and by $1,000 in 2012.

Under House Local Bill 17-8, the current annual license fee of $4,000 for poker and pachinko slot machines on Rota will be increased to $4,500 by Jan. 1, 2011.

This will be further raised to $5,000 per machine beginning on Jan. 1, 2012.

Santos said the increase in machine license fees will go toward the Rota Municipal Scholarship Fund, which she said is in dire need of financial assistance, as well as for the long-delayed compensation adjustment of a number of Rota residents.

She said Rota residents affected by Public Law 7-31 or the Commonwealth Compensation Adjustment Act of 1991 have been waiting for more than 10 years for their compensation adjustment.

One way to fund the scholarship program and the compensation adjustment is to increase the annual local license fees of poker and pachinko slot machines which are a major source of revenue for Rota, Santos said.

The freshman lawmaker said 50 percent of the machine license fee increases shall be reserved for the Rota Municipal Fund, and the other 50 percent, for the compensation of individuals covered by Public Law 7-31.

Santos introduced the bill the same day that the House filed a standing committee report recommending passage of an austerity bill to address the government's fiscal crisis.

**CONFIRMATION HEARING**
The Senate chamber and gallery are filled to capacity as police cadets and officers, other law enforcers, government officials and private citizens show support for the reappointment of Police Commissioner Santiago F. Tudela during his confirmation hearing on March 3, 2010.
HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

## Cancer survivors invited to 2010 Marianas March

The 2010 Marianas March Against Cancer Committee is inviting all cancer survivors and those who are undergoing cancer treatment to attend the annual survivor dinner at the 2010 MMAC, to be held on May 14, 2010, at the Hopwood Junior High School field in Chalan Piao.

The MMAC event will begin at 6pm on May 14 and end at 6am on May 15.

All cancer survivors or those undergoing treatment are encouraged to join their fellow survivors in support of the battle against cancer. To register for the event or for more information, contact MMAC Survivor Committee chair Nora Sablan at norasablan@gmail.com. All who attend will be treated to a nice dinner and will receive a unique medallion and t-shirt in their honor.

All 2010 MMAC teams are advised that the registration payment is due on April 9 but payments will be accepted prior to that date. As soon as payment is received, the team will have the opportunity to choose their tent site on a first-come, first-served basis.

Luminaries are still for sale for only $5 each. The public is encouraged to purchase a luminary for a loved one who has survived cancer, currently undergoing treatment or has lost the battle against cancer. Each luminary will be self-decorated and will be lit the entire 12-hour period in honor of all those who have been affected by cancer. For more information, contact MMAC Luminary chair Catherine Attao at attao20@yahoo.com or 483-3874.

In addition, all 2010 MMAC teams are selling raffle tickets for only $5 each. Prizes up for grabs include a free ticket to the U.S., a free ticket to Asia and several discount travel vouchers courtesy of 2010 MMAC title sponsor Delta Air Lines. Contact Reina Camacho at reinacamacho@gmail.com or 285-7677 for more information.

The next 2010 MMAC team meeting will be at 5:30pm on Wednesday, March 31, at the Pacific Islands Club. All interested community members are invited to attend. ***(MMAC)***

## DCCA directors, 124 employees back Faisao nomination

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

All eight division directors of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs and majority of their employees have expressed support for the re-appointment and confirmation of Melvin Faisao as DCCA secretary.

A statement obtained by *Saipan Tribune* showed the signatures of all DCCA directors urging Senate President Paul Manglona to confirm Faisao, whom they described as being committed and dedicated to the department.

The signatories were Language Policy commission executive director David Omar, Historic Preservation Office director Pedro Roy Sablan, Aging Office director Rosa Mondala, Childcare Program director Maribel Loste, Division of Youth Services director Calvani Deleon Guerrero, Arts Council acting director Vincent Rabauliman, Nutrition Assistance Program director Eleanor Cruz, and Sports Division director Joe Lizama.

They said Faisao has upheld all prescribed duties and responsibilities diligently and fairly.

"His leaderships among division directors are to the point and within the scope of tasks and he has demonstrated dedication and commitment during his term as department head of DCCA," the directors said, adding that all concerns were addressed cohesively and comprehensively.

"We placed our trust and faith in your wise decision in affirming his confirmation," the directors told the Senate President in their letter.

A majority of the divisions' employees also urged Manglona's support for Faisao's confirmation with a signature petition bearing 124 names of existing personnel.

The petitioners described Faisao's leadership at the department as "superb," saying he is a leader that employees are comfortable approaching anytime due to his open-door policy at DCCA.

The petition stated that Faisao never micromanages the programs of each division and lets the division directors run their programs.

"He is also a leader that never puts down his staff, that whenever we don't know what we are doing, he never criticizes, scolds, nor embarrasses us. Instead, he corrects and teaches us on what and how to do the jobs," the petition stated.

The Senate President also received other written testimonies expressing support for Faisao, including the testimony of Carolinian Affairs Office director Angelica Iginoef Mangarero and employees Genevieve Deleon Guerrero and Tom Schweiger.

They believe that confirming Faisao as secretary would ensure stability in the department and continued success in implementing the goals of its many agencies.

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## DESPITE OAG'S STRONG OBJECTION

# Judge allows release of kidnapping suspect

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Despite the strong objection of the CNMI government, a Superior Court judge allowed yesterday the temporary release of the suspect in the kidnapping of a 5-year-old girl in Kagman.

Associate judge Kenneth Govendo approved Steven Hocog's motion to modify the $100,000 cash bail the court had earlier imposed for his temporary liberty. The suspect posted a property bond consisting of a homestead with a tin house.

The judge also accepted Hocog's request that he be released to third-party custodians upon signing an appearance bond in the amount of $50,000, secured by a 743-square-meter homestead lot. Hocog's two brothers—William and Donald Hocog—were allowed to serve as third party custodians.

Hocog

Assistant attorney general Jennifer Dockter strongly objected to the suspect's release, considering the seriousness of the charges and letting him go without posting any cash and providing only a homestead lot of undetermined value.

Dockter also expressed concern about the safety of children in the community. She noted that one of the third-party custodians has children, while the second has grandchildren.

In accepting Hocog's motion, Govendo placed him under house arrest and barred him from having any contact with the alleged victim and her family, as well as all children under the age of 18.

Hocog was represented at the hearing by assistant public defender Matthew J. Holley.

Chief prosecutor Rosemond Santos filed on Thursday an information charging the 35-year-old Hocog with three counts of kidnapping, one count of assault and battery, and one count of disturbing the peace.

Hocog allegedly kidnapped the 5-year-old girl from the Rio Laundry in Kagman III on the evening of March 2 and brought her to an abandoned house, where she later managed to escape.

The girl sustained minor scratches on her hands, legs, and chin. Police said bruises were also visible on the child's neck, consistent with her claim that the suspect choked her.

A doctor at the Commonwealth Health Center reportedly examined the girl and found no physical signs of sexual contact.

## EMO warns of high surf until Wednesday

A high surf advisory is now in effect, from 6am Saturday until 3pm of Wednesday, March 17, 2010, affecting west and north facing reefs.

Based on information received from the National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam, EMO said a long period northwest swell moving southeastward from Japan will cause surf to build to hazardous heights on west and north facing beaches and reefs this Saturday morning.

"Large trade wind generated swells could cause surf on east facing exposures to build to hazardous levels by Sunday evening," EMO said.

Surf is expected to build to hazardous heights of 7 to 9 feet on west facing reefs and 9 to 11 feet on north facing reefs this morning. The surf on west facing exposures is projected to subside to below hazardous heights by Monday.

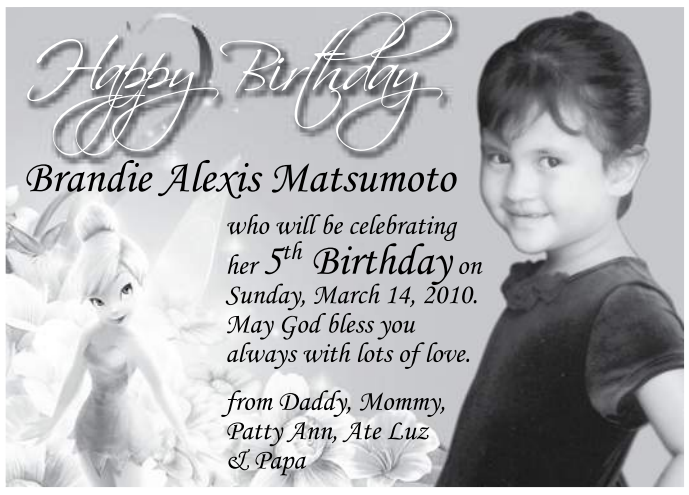
"Surf on north facing exposures will remain above hazardous levels for the next several days," EMO said.

Today, east wind is projected at 20 knots, with wind waves of 5 ft., mixed swell east 7 ft and northwest 5 ft. Tonight, east wind is forecasted at 20 knots, with wind waves of 5 ft., east swell of 8 ft and northwest 4 ft.

EMO is strongly advising the public to avoid venturing near exposed reefs and beaches especially along west and north facing reefs, as rip currents are life threatening. ***(EMO)***

**STREET ACTION**
*Beach Volleyball Style*
Magazine photographer Kazuaki Matsunaga checks out the Garapan Street Market on Feb. 25, 2010, on Saipan in the Northern Mariana Islands. Matsunaga was on island to cover the 18th Marianas Cup Beach Volleyball held at Pacific Islands Club Saipan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO


Happy Birthday
Brandie Alexis Matsumoto
who will be celebrating her 5th Birthday on Sunday, March 14, 2010.
May God bless you always with lots of love.
from Daddy, Mommy, Patty Ann, Ate Luz & Papa

# Military training on Farallon de Medinilla, Warning Area-517

**SANTA RITA, Guam**—The Navy and Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on the following dates:

- March 15-19, from 7:45am to 10:30pm
- March 16-18, from 1:30pm 4:15pm

The Navy and Air Force will conduct training at Warning Area-517 on the following dates:

- March 17, from 9:30am to 12:45pm
- March 18, from 6:30am to 12:45pm
- March 20, from 8am to 6:30pm

The public, especially fisherman, commercial pilots and marine tour operators, are advised to stay clear from these areas during the times and dates indicated.

W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

Farallon de Medinilla plays a special and unique role in national defense because its location provides access frequency that supports established training requirements. In addition, the air and sea space in the Farallon provides sufficient room for the many different attack profiles necessary to replicate training opportunities in the CNMI. ***(USN)***

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# PUBLIC NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH LAW REVISION COMMISSION
(JUDICIAL BRANCH)
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, March 17, 2010, 9:30 a.m.
Commonwealth Law Revision Commission Office
House of Justice/Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe
Susupe, Saipan

**AGENDA**

1. **Preliminary Matters**
   - A. Call to Order and Roll Call
   - B. Introductions
   - C. Meeting Notice (Compliance with Open Govt. Act, 1 CMC § 9901 et seq.)
2. **Old Business**
   - A. Final Approval of April 15, 2009 Meeting Minutes
3. **Executive Director's Report**
   - A. CNMI Laws CD
   - B. 2009 Code Supplement
   - C. Upcoming Products
   - D. Product Sales
   - E. Annual Report
   - F. FY '10-'11 Budget Request
4. **New Business**
   - A. Website reconstruction
   - B. Future products
5. **Other Business**
6. **Adjournment**

**For further information or special accommodations, contact the Commission Office at 236-9820 or email albert.hicking@justice.gov.mp**

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# US govt agrees to delay sentencing of mariner

The U.S. government has agreed to delay the sentencing of a man who altered his expired U.S. Merchant Marine Officer's license since he is currently at sea.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Beverly R. McCallum has agreed with Loren A. Sutton, lawyer for Drayton Crestwell Reeves, to ask the federal court to move the sentencing to May 13, 2010.

Reeves' sentencing is currently set for April 22, 2010, in the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

The parties said that Reeves is currently at sea as a mariner. As a result, the U.S. Probation's pre-sentence interview wth him has not yet taken place.

Reeves is expected back on Saipan on March 20, 2010.

The parties said the U.S. Probation Officer wants more time to submit the pre-sentence investigation report.

The continuance would allow the probation officer enough time to review Reeves and submit the report in advance of sentencing.

The U.S. government charged Reeves with misuse of a federal license and false statement for altering his expired U.S. Merchant Marine Officer's license to create an impression he was still a U.S. Coast Guard-licensed master.

Reeves signed a plea agreement with the U.S. government. Last January, he pleaded guilty to misuse of a federal license. The court accepted Reeves' guilty plea and temporarily freed him on some conditions.

McCallum stated that Reeves committed false statement on July 28, 2009 when during an interview with the USCG on Saipan, he told USCG Lt. Junior Grade Derricka Fortson that he had a valid merchant marine officer license. Reeves claimed he was not in possession of this license because he had submitted it to the USCG National Maritime Center for renewal, McCallum said. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

# Man allegedly beats up wife, resists arrest

A man was arrested and taken to court early this week for allegedly beating up his common-law wife and resisting arrest on Tinian.

Eugene M. San Nicolas was arrested for assault and battery, resisting arrest, and disturbing the peace.

Tinian police officer Joann A. Pangelinan stated in her report that on Feb. 27 at 12:21am the victim called the Tinian Department of Public Safety's front desk, shouting on the phone the name of San Nicolas.

When police officers responded to San Nicolas' residence, they found the two fighting. San Nicolas asked the police officer to leave but the woman asked him to take away the defendant. San Nicolas was allegedly being aggressive toward the officer so an off-duty officer sprayed him with pepper mace, calming him down.

The victim told police that San Nicolas had just arrived home when he accused her of having an affair. He then allegedly slapped her. Police saw that the victim's right cheek was red and swollen.

When the officer told San Nicolas he was going to be arrested, the defendant refused to put his hands behind his back. Only when the officer threatened to spray him again with pepper mace did San Nicolas cooperate. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

## THOSE

*From Page 1*

cessor's approach toward the release of government documents. Scholars, journalists, farmers and the simply curious now await the reopening of federal information taps tightened since 2001.

In fiscal 2007, for instance, the Defense Department completely granted approximately 48 percent of the FOIA requests it processed. In fiscal 1998, by contrast, the Clinton administration's Defense Department completely granted approximately 61 percent of FOIA requests.

The Pentagon was not alone, a review of federal agency reports shows. Percentages are approximate, because of how the reports are compiled, but trends are obvious.

The Interior Department completely granted approximately 64 percent of FOIA requests processed in 1998 but only 47 percent in 2007. The State Department completely granted 28 percent of FOIA requests processed in 1998, compared with 9 percent in 1998.

Other federal agencies, though not all, likewise lessened access to information during the Bush administration, the review of public records reveals.

The decline was most pronounced in agencies known for keeping secrets. The CIA completely granted approximately 44 percent of FOIA requests processed in 1998. By 2007, this had fallen to 11 percent. Other agencies followed suit. The Agriculture Department completely granted 85 percent of FOIA requests in 2007, down from 95 percent a decade before.

The Freedom of Information Act, signed into law in 1966, invites widespread use. Documents may be released completely, denied completely or, as often happens, released partially.

Each year, 2 million or more requests are received by federal agencies.

The requests run the gamut. The secretive National Security Agency receives frequent FOIA requests seeking information on UFOs; the Food and Drug Administration fields numerous corporate FOIA requests; and political opposition researchers regularly use the law in search of dirt.

Delays are common in every administration. The zipped-lip trend accelerated, though, after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

"Any discretionary decision by your agency to disclose information protected under the FOIA should be made only after full and deliberate consideration of the institutional, commercial and personal privacy interests that could be implicated by disclosure of the information," then-Attorney General John Ashcroft cautioned in an Oct. 12, 2001, memo.

Tellingly, Ashcroft told federal officials they could "be assured" the Justice Department would defend decisions to withhold public records. Attorney and FOIA specialist Scott A. Hodes, who formerly worked for the Justice Department, added that the "overall secrecy feel of the Bush administration" contributed to the more frequent denials.

"They attempted to withhold routine decision-making processes ... no matter how mundane it was, or if it was just embarrassing to the administration," Hodes said.

Obama seems to spin this around, with his presidential memo issued Jan. 21.

"All agencies should adopt a presumption of disclosure," Obama wrote, adding that "in the face of doubt, openness should prevail."

Fulfilling this promise, though, could prove difficult, as the number of federal information-access officers has shrunk. The Justice Department, for instance, reported having 872 full-time FOIA staffers working in 1998. By 2007, the department's full-time FOIA staff had fallen to 365.

## FITIAL

*From Page 1*

ity, and no longer in acting capacity. They don't have to go through another Senate confirmation," press secretary Angel Demapan told *Saipan Tribune* when asked for comment.

Fitial's issuance of a memo to recall his Cabinet reappointments came a few hours before the Senate unanimously confirmed yesterday afternoon the nomination of former Rep. Oscar M. Babauta as Public Lands secretary, Martin C. Sablan as Public Works secretary, and Melchor Mendiola Jr. as Marianas Public Land Trust board trustee.

Babauta, in a phone interview, said he's "happy, grateful and humbled" by the Senate's overwhelming support of his nomination by the governor.

"I also extend my appreciation to the governor and lieutenant governor for entrusting me [with] this position. … We've got many things on the horizon to be executed by the department," said Babauta, a former House speaker.

Senate President Paul A. Manglona (R-Rota) and Senate Vice President Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian), in a phone interview, said the Senate also confirmed, albeit "ceremonially," the reappointment of Public Safety Commissioner Santiago F. Tudela.

The Senate session was held on Rota.

The senators adopted the Executive Appointments and Governmental Investigation Committee's four standing committee reports recommending confirmation of the nominees, effectively confirming the nominees. The EAGI Committee is chaired by Sen. Francisco Q. Cruz (R-Tinian).

Hofschneider, however, said he doesn't necessarily agree with the attorney general's opinion.

"I believe that the Senate should be afforded an opportunity to confirm or not the governor's re-appointees because this is not only a different term although under the same governor but also because we have a new Legislature," he said.

But Hofschneider and Manglona said the Senate legal counsel is "leaning" toward the attorney general's opinion so the Senate will have to go by the same legal opinion.

Buckingham, in a Feb. 3 legal opinion, stated that "the heads of executive departments serving in the same capacity need not be re-nominated by the governor and reconfirmed by the Senate and they may continue to exercise their authority without interruption."

He said this opinion seems in line with the treatment of U.S. Cabinet members.

For example, the current secretary of Defense, Robert M. Gates, was appointed by former President George W. Bush and confirmed by the U.S. Senate in December 2006. Gates remained in the position after the election of President Barack Obama and did not require re-nomination by the president or reconfirmation by the U.S. Senate.

After his re-election, Fitial asked his Cabinet secretaries to submit their courtesy resignations. Many of them were reappointed and their names were submitted to the Senate for confirmation.

Prior to the release of Buckingham's opinion, Fitial reappointed most of his Cabinet members, including Santiago F. Tudela as Public Safety commissioner, Dr. Ignacio Dela Cruz as Lands and Natural Resources secretary, Adam Hardwicke as public defender, Melvin L.O. Faisao as Community and Cultural Affairs secretary, Michael Ada as Commerce secretary, Isidro K. Seman Personnel Management director, and Edward T. Buckingham as attorney general.

New appointees included Oscar M. Babauta as DPL secretary, Martin Sablan as DPW secretary, and Ramon "Ray" C. Mafnas as Corrections commissioner, replacing Dolores M. Aldan. The Senate has yet to hold a public hearing on Mafnas' nomination.

Fitial has yet to announce the reappointment or appointment of the secretaries of the departments of Finance, Health and Labor.

## BUDGET

*From Page 1*

"As community leaders, the people of the Commonwealth are relying on us to make the proper decisions in reducing the overall cost of government operations," he said in a March 9 letter to House Speaker Froilan C. Tenorio (Cov-Saipan) and Senate President Paul A. Manglona (R-Rota).

The original estimated resource for FY 2010 was $150.500 million, with $148,083,551 to be spent for government operations.

Due to a projected decline in revenue, Fitial adjusted this amount to $137,350,000, representing a 7.25 percent reduction that he said "must be absorbed by the budget authority remaining for the fiscal year."

"Therefore, pursuant to 1 CMC 7604(c)(4), I am mandating immediate proportional reduction of 7.25 percent in the continuing budget authority of all branches, offices, departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the Commonwealth, which are subject to appropriations," Fitial said.

Acting Finance Secretary Robert Schrack, in a March 2 memo to then acting Gov. Eloy S. Inos, reported a projected shortfall of $13.15 million for FY 2010.

### Shortfall

The original projected shortfall was $15.4 million, including an $11.4 million reduction in anticipated business gross revenue tax receipts, and a downward adjustment in the "other internal resources" category to accurately reflect the treatment of some $4 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's State Fiscal Stabilization Fund.

But the $15.4 million in projected shortfall has been offset in part by the increase in actual and projected revenues of $2.25 million from nonresident worker fees related to the delay in the implementation of the federalization law, the Consolidated Natural Resources Act.

The implementation of the CNRA or U.S. Public Law 110-229 was delayed from June 1, 2009 to Nov. 28, 2009.

The projected shortfall has therefore been reduced to $13.15 million.

The governor said the effect of the reduction will be reflected in the budget authority remaining for the fiscal year.

### Quick realignment

Fitial acknowledged that the reduced budget allocation will have significant impact on government operations and services but said the CNMI's current financial condition requires quick realignment of government spending within available resources.

"In order to meet this challenge, it is imperative that agencies and activities examine their operations and identify areas where cost may be reduced or eliminated altogether," Fitial told the presiding officers of the Legislature.

Fitial said the government must continue to provide essential services related to public health and public safety, but there are many areas of operations where costs can be curtailed.

A spreadsheet from Finance that was attached to the governor's letter to the Legislature showed the money allotted from October 2009 to March 2010 to government branches and agencies, as well as the un-allotted budget authority.

The Legislature, for example, has been allotted $3 million for the first two quarters of FY 2010, and an un-allotted budget authority of more than $2.681 for the last two quarters as a result of the reduced budget authority.

The Executive Branch has been allotted over $35 million in the first two quarters; it will now have only $30.2 million for the last two quarters.

The Judiciary also has to live within $1.56 million in the third and fourth quarters, compared to the $1.7 million allotted during the first two quarters.

### Austerity bill

Fitial earlier urged lawmakers to pass the austerity bill that would close government offices for one day every pay day and during all remaining legal holidays in FY 2010 to save the government some $4 million.

However, the House on Thursday "filed" the Ways and Means Committee's report recommending passage of House Bill 17-22. This effectively killed the measure after some 30 parents, teachers, and other education officials from Saipan, Tinian and Rota urged lawmakers not to pass it.

Fitial expressed disappointment with the House's decision, adding that he will meet again with lawmakers. An austerity bill can still be introduced in the House.

The austerity bill called for an eight-hour reduction in government work hours per pay period, from 80 to 72. This will be further reduced to 64 work hours per pay period if there is a legal holiday.

Each payroll costs the government $280,000.

# BOE endorses renaming Rota school after Inos

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Board of Education has backed a local Senate bill that would rename the Rota Junior High School after Dr. Rita Hocog Inos in recognition and appreciation of her untiring and outstanding contributions to the Public School System and the people of the Commonwealth.

The full board gave their approving nod during a special meeting yesterday, with members saying it is only fitting to honor Dr. Inos' life as an educator by renaming the school after her. Under the proposal, the school would be named Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior High School.

Inos was the Education commissioner from 1998 to 2006.

"Dr. Inos, a daughter of Rota and pride of the CNMI, played a critical role in bringing the PSS to the forefront of education in the Pacific Region," the board said.

Inos, described as an articulate, persuasive, and level-headed leader, helped create a public school system that not only serves the needs of the children, but also helped build an education system that people of the CNMI would be proud of.

Inos

Under Inos' tenure, she implemented and established a data-driven system based on assessing student achievement, which served as a precursor to the enactment of the No Child Left Behind regulations. According to the board, this system enabled the CNMI to readily comply with federal standards required by NCLB.

Inos was also credited for paving the way for a standards-based curriculum and method of instruction, as well as structuring rigorous graduation requirements for students in the core-curriculum areas.

"The standards and benchmarks she established and implemented applied to all students, at all grade levels. She also reformed PSS to be in line with national standards, and [strived] to make PSS teachers highly qualified and on-par with teachers nationwide," the board said, adding that under Inos leadership, PSS became an NCLB model in the Pacific.

Besides these, the former commissioner was also described as a tireless and passionate advocate of the PSS who was committed to showcasing its empowering aspects and success stories of students and employees, both of PSS and throughout the Pacific region.

"For these, and countless other reasons, the board supports the recommendation to recognize the incomparable and visionary Dr. Inos for her 34 years of invaluable and unselfish service to the field of education and to the CNMI PSS," the board said.

Inos died of cancer in August last year.

## PTSA Council wants a wall next to SVES baseball field

By WALTER J. SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The umbrella group representing all PTA organizations in the CNMI wants a wall built along the Isa Drive highway next to the baseball field at San Vicente Elementary School to ensure the safety of the school's children.

During yesterday's Board of Education meeting, PTSA Council president Juan Sablan urged the board to push for the barrier as the Department of Public Works' plans only include a speed bump and sidewalk.

According to San Vicente vice principal Betty Miller, current construction plans for the section of the highway along the San Vicente baseball field include a 4-foot wide paved shoulder from the edge of the outside lane to a drainage gutter, the drainage ditch itself is another 2 feet wide which will then meet the curb of the sidewalk. The curb of the sidewalk will be raised 6 inches from the drain and the sidewalk itself will be another 5 feet wide. Other details pertain to a portion of the chain-linked fence along the baseball field that has been removed during the road construction. The fence will be replaced during the completion of the section.

Sablan said these are not enough: "We want a concrete barrier to protect our kids at school."

Sablan also suggested paving the coral road at the back side of the school to help the flow of traffic during drop-off and pick-up hours.

Right now, Sablan said, between 6:30am to 8am and 2pm to 3:30pm, Atkiya Drive converts into a two lane one-way road for parents to use when dropping off and picking up their children. Sablan suggests opening the backside road will increase the flow of traffic for cars who wish to exit onto Isa Drive just north of the baseball field.

This would create two exit paths instead of one, he said, and would also allow for both southern and northern routes of travel while decreasing the wait times for traffic.

When the road work on Isa Drive is completed, the highway will have two northbound lanes and two southbound lanes in addition to a center turn lane. The section of the road along San Vicente baseball field is scheduled to be completed in May.

Miller, who is also the Safety Officer at San Vicente Elementary School, said the school has about 670 students. It is estimated that 125 students ride buses and 500 children are dropped off and picked up by car. About 20 children use the cross walks at the front of the school and some are allowed to walk home through the back gates. Flaggers are on duty to help children safely cross the highway at both the north and south ends of the school. Miller said the current transport system is working and when the construction is complete things will continue to run smoothly.

San Vicente used to have a visitor parking lot, but the construction project removed it. Since then, changes were made to how students are dropped off and picked up. Miller expects the center turn lane that will be installed on the highway will satisfy the needs of commuters.

**THEN AND NOW** HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

From left, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, Corrections Commissioner and senior policy adviser Ray Mafnas, Parent-Teacher Association president George Cruz, Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School acting principal Charlotte Camacho, and Board of Education chair Lucy Blanco-Maratita look at a class photo of GTC Elementary School students some 20 years ago, right after Tuesday's ribbon cutting ceremony for two new buildings on campus.

## Guam contractor fined $139.5K for unsafe state of barracks and jobsite

**SAN FRANCISCO**—The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration has cited Hua Sheng International Group Corp. in Barrigada, Guam, for $139,500 in proposed penalties for hazardous working and living conditions at a jobsite and barracks in Harmon, Guam.

"The failure of employers to provide clean water to workers they are required to house can lead to serious infections and dehydration," said Ken Nishiyama Atha, OSHA's regional administrator in San Francisco. "We are vigorously enforcing the standards for adequate housing and safety for all workers, including H-2B temporary workers, especially as construction and other industries ramp up in support of the planned relocation of Marine Corps personnel and their dependents from Okinawa, Japan, to Guam."

OSHA has cited the company for one alleged willful violation and 28 alleged serious violations. The willful violation is for failing to provide workers with an adequate water supply for drinking, cooking, bathing, flushing and laundry. The proposed penalty for the willful violation is $70,000. A willful violation is one committed with intentional knowing or voluntary disregard for the law's requirements or with plain indifference to employee safety and health.

**ON THE NET**
- http://www.osha.gov

The serious violations are for safety and health hazards related to poor living conditions at the employees' barracks as well as at the worksite. Some include failing to maintain the fire alarm system; maintain toilet rooms in sanitary condition; install cooking and heating equipment to meet local ordinances codes and regulations; provide proper food-handling facilities and garbage containers; and provide first aid facilities and maintain a trained first aid person. The proposed penalty for the serious violations is $69,500

A serious violation occurs when there is substantial probability that death or serious physical harm could result from a hazard about which the employer knew or should have known.

OSHA cited this company six times in the two years prior to this inspection. Four of the inspections resulted in a total of nine serious violations.

Hua Sheng has 15 business days from receipt of the citations and proposed penalties to comply, request an informal conference with OSHA's area director or contest the findings before the independent Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. OSHA's role is to assure these conditions for America's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance. ***(OSHA)***

## Major cyclone brewing, Fiji in its path

- **Category 3 cyclone to hit Vanua Levu on Sunday**

**WELLINGTON, New Zealand** (RNZI/PIR)—A tropical cyclone alert has been issued for the French Pacific islands of Wallis and Futuna.

The Met Service in Nadi says a tropical depression has formed and is now about 250 kilometres northeast of Wallis.

The system is intensifying and is expected to develop into a tropical cyclone in 12 to 24 hours.

According to Tropical Storm Risk, the storm was expected to loop above Wallis and Futuna, moving westward before turning south in a straight line heading directly for the island of Vanua Levu in Fiji. The storm is expected to grow in intensity, first to a category 2 cyclone with winds of up to 110 miles per hour, then increasing to a category 3 with winds up to 130 miles per hour by Sunday, when it is expected to reach Vanua Levu.

Forecasters expect damaging gale force winds and periods of heavy rain and squally thunderstorms for Wallis, and wind increasing over the next 36-48 hours for Futuna.

And heavy rainfall is expected throughout the northern and central parts of Vanuatu over the next day.

The Vanuatu metservice is expecting looding is expected over low lying areas.

A marine wind warning has been issued for all open waters of the Vanuatu group.

## ADB warns of slowdown in Pacific tourism

**MELBOURNE, Australia** (Radio Australia)—The Asian Development Bank has warned the Pacific will see a new slowing of tourism growth in this year.

Unexpectedly strong tourism numbers from Australia and New Zealand in 2009 played a key role in protecting many Pacific island economies from an even worse experience of the global economic crisis.

The Asian Development Bank's Carig Sugden says a decline in discretionary spending in those two key tourism source countries will lead to a slowing of the tourism growth in the Pacific in 2010.

"Cook Islands, Vanuatu, Samoa and Tonga are probably more exposed than the Fiji Islands," he said.

Sugden says the slower growth in tourism is a short-term effect with conditions expected to improve in 2011.

# Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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EDITORIAL

## Iraqi election offers pleasant surprise

Ever since the 2003 U.S.-led invasion of Iraq, American and other foreign officials have insisted that Iraqis were capable of self-governing and holding credible elections, despite a massive foreign-troop presence looming over all aspects of their lives. Americans longed to see theory put into practice. Iraqis were justifiably skeptical, but they slowly came to accept that the only way to rid their country of foreign occupiers was to prove that outside troops were no longer necessary.

Sunday's national election marked a major milestone in overcoming the skeptics. Despite multiple bombings and deaths as polls opened, Iraqis voted in exceptionally high numbers. Perhaps more significant was the fact that Iraqi troops and police provided security throughout the country with no observable U.S. military presence on the streets.

"Success" is a word best used with caution when discussing Iraq, but this seems a time when it's appropriate. And with this success, the comfort zone expands for U.S. troops to continue withdrawing, knowing that their sacrifices have not gone to waste.

As recently as a year ago, we would have been reluctant to write these words because of the many obstacles that stood in the way of achieving the 2011 withdrawal deadline set by President George W. Bush and the Iraqi government. Many obstacles and pitfalls remain. But Iraqis have passed the crucial test of whether they can manage elections under their own security framework. It wasn't until last June, when U.S. troops withdrew from all urban centers, that an election free of an observable foreign military presence was even possible.

**DEMOCRACY IN TRANSITION**

- **June 2004:** The American-led Coalition Provisional Authority cedes governing powers to Iraqi's interim government.
- **January 2005:** An estimated 8 million Iraqis vote in elections for a transitional national assembly.
- **October 2005:** Voters approve a new constitution.
- **December 2005:** Iraqis elect their first full-term government and parliament since the 2003 invasion.
- **March 2010:** Iraq has its first national elections under Iraqi-led security.

The slow pace of this process has severely tested American patience, especially as Iraqis veered toward civil war and experimented dangerously with various forms of Muslim religious influence on their democratic governance. They are slowly working out their political, ethnic and sectarian differences. And they are demonstrating a national will to govern themselves without requiring U.S. troops to play referee when opposing sides come to loggerheads.

During the bleak days of violence from 2005 through 2007, millions of American skeptics thought it was foolish to stay in Iraq and continue exposing U.S. troops to bombs while Iraqis argued. Millions of other skeptics thought it was foolish to set a withdrawal timetable even for 2011, arguing that it was too early to leave and that the enemy would simply resume the battle once the U.S. military had departed.

Sunday's vote was the answer to both sets of skeptics. It was far from perfect, but it was hardly the disaster scenario the naysayers had grown so fond of predicting.

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## Naked Rahm now seared in our brains

By JOHN KASS
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A naked, wet and angry Rahm Emanuel?

That's the last image Americans need in our minds right now.

But it's been seared onto our brains—just like that weird wrestling scene from the movie "Borat"—thanks to former U.S. Rep. Eric Massa, D-N.Y., who resigned the other day amid allegations he sexually harassed male staffers.

"Let me tell you a story about Rahm Emanuel," Massa said on a recent radio program, talking about taking a shower in the Congressional Gym.

"I'm sitting there showering, naked as a jaybird, and here comes Rahm Emanuel not even with a towel wrapped around his tush, poking his finger in my chest, yelling at me because I wasn't going to vote for the president's budget. Do you know how awkward it is to have a political argument with a naked man?"

No. But I believe him because I've had a similar argument with Rahm before he was White House chief of staff, right here in the Chicago Tribune newsroom, Rahm jabbing his finger near my chest.

It really was just a finger, honest. And happily, Rahm was fully clothed.

Naturally, the White House denies the naked shower episode ever happened, and President Barack Obama's spokesman is basically calling Massa a nutball.

But can't both be true? The naked and the nutball?

Massa denies he sexually harassed anyone, but he now says he did engage in "tickle fights" with male staffers and may have sent inappropriate texts.

So of the nutball thing I am convinced, after watching his interview with Glenn Beck on Tuesday, one of the worst hours of TV in the history of the world, even worse than "A Very Brady Christmas."

"I'm going to show you a lot more than tickle fights," Massa warned a horrified Beck. "This will look like an orgy from 'Caligula.'"

Massa then proceeded to open a photo album from his Navy days. One photo depicted unidentified men raising what looked to me to be a gigantic horseradish as if it were a trophy. Thank God that Beck wanted no part of the horseradish photos.

Still, the Naked Rahm remains branded in the minds of my countrymen, like one of those horrible jingles that you hear in a commercial and gets stuck in your head.

So from now on, every time Rahm appears in the Capitol—clothed or naked as a wet jaybird—don't be surprised when Democrats and Republicans begin humming the obnoxious jingle from the Subway commercials:

Five. Five dollar.

Five-dollar foot ...

A panicked editor just called, pleading with me not to go there. But it's too late. The Naked Rahm is an immensely powerful avatar.

But what the heck is with our politicians getting naked in our minds?

The Republicans are doing it too. Just the other day, Florida Gov. Charlie Crist went after his U.S. Senate campaign opponent Marco Rubio, alleging Rubio used a party credit card to pay $130 at a salon for a haircut, "or maybe it was a back wax."

A back wax?

Rahm is from Chicago, and plays Chicago politics, a fact that Washington journalists may have just discovered. But in Chicago, at least, our politicians keep their clothes on.

The late Mayor Richard J. Daley, boss of the Democratic machine, was said to wear a suit and tie even while walking on the beach at his Michigan vacation retreat. Legend has it his shiny black Oxfords would step lightly over schools of beached alewives and he'd quietly order his police bodyguards to dig a hole and rake them up.

And when his son Mayor Richard M. Daley takes fabulous free vacations—oh, I meant "working trips"—he can spend a weekend in the Bahamas and still come home without a tan. Why? The mayor keeps his clothes on.

The whole naked politician thing probably started with the famous pec pics of Obama in 2007, with Obama rising from the Hawaiian surf like Pegasus in "Clash of the Titans," his skin glistening with sea foam.

Obama's pecs were deemed stupendous by many journalists who yearned longingly for his politics. They got tingles. And the nation began sliding down a slippery slope right then and there.

Our newest low is the shocking beach photo of the ethically challenged former House Ways and Means Chairman Charles Rangel, D-N.Y.

The portly Rangel dozes, his hand dangling languidly upon some Dominican sand. At least he kept his shorts on.

As did Rahm in the Tribune newsroom. He was upset that I kept mentioning how he got elected to Congress—with the help of an illegal City Hall patronage army led by the now imprisoned corrupt city water boss Don Tomczak.

With his back to the newsroom, Rahm wagged that finger at my chest, and in my face, but he kept smiling and speaking politely. Other reporters—watching his back—thought he was really tearing my head off. It was a thoroughly devious trick, and I appreciated his crafty theatrics.

But a Stark Naked Rahm?

"He poked a finger in my chest while we were taking a shower," Massa said Tuesday. "Not only did it happen, I'll never forget it."

And now the nation can't forget it either.

Just like "Borat."

*John Kass is a columnist for the* Chicago Tribune. *Readers may send him e-mail at jskass@tribune.com.*

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# Romancing the lagoon

**By JAIME VERGARA**
*Special to the* Tribune

*Vergara is a regular contributor to the* Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

In my attempt to sidestep the prospect of a prescribed surgical procedure on cervical/spinal stenosis, I have taken to doing laps in the lagoon again. Swimming provides a safe, supportive environment to stretch the muscles without putting too much stress on the joints. The water supports weight well, which means that there's less stress on the affected neural region. The anti-inflammatory is kept nearby, just in case.

I head out an hour before sunset to south of the Sugar Dock pier, on the section between the Aquarius Resort Tower and the old Pacific Gardenia restaurant and grill waterfront, and stay until Mt. Carmel's *Angelus* bells. Lino Olopai keeps his catamarans somewhere in between, and when he is not up his farm on the hill tending to his taro, I welcome him back from his Mañagaha run. I am still waiting for him to get the traditional proa out to slice into the wind, though I have given up convincing Lino to try a Satawal-Elato run south, or sail to Uracas and Maug up north! Would that one be trained in his famed *refalawasch/taotao tasi* navigational skills!

The Aquarius waterline is sandy; cross currents converge in the area and dump sand so that it makes for easy and smooth walking to the deeper ends. At high tide, in a time when seismic tremors are felt regularly, the waves leave formations of crests and troughs on the bottom so that snorkeling makes the scenery look like the sand dunes of Lawrence of Arabia hunched against the Ottoman Turks.

I relish floating just a few feet above the limestone outcroppings where the coral reefs once flourished. *Ar-arosep* and *lato* to Pinoys, *umi-budo* to Okinawans, sea grape or green seaweed (scientific name: *Caulerpa lentillifera*), are sprouting from the seabed this time of the year. A favorite in coastal towns in the Malay Peninsula, they are marketed inland for their iodine content to combat the deficiency that leads to goiter. Forbidden from harvest, they wilt fast with the rising water temperature, or the frequency of motorized boats going out to sea.

When I lived in Oleai in 2001, I snorkeled between the nearshore tank in the lagoon and the tank by Beach Road and Quartermaster Road. John B. Joyner still treaded on water then, and he would be seen doing his afternoon walk-on-water routine before he officially began managing the quality of our coastal resources.

Oleai Bar and Grill was a good location to meet with a student *hu zi* to await the green flash in the horizon because when it did, one got a free drink on the house! On the weekends, over margaritas and tacos, some of our *Crazy Heart* musicians shed their 9-to-5 office attire, put on their boots and wide-brimmed hats, strummed their guitars and banjos, and wail their hearts' away. Ah, those were the days, my friend!

Now I watch little puffer fish guard their holes in the sparsely populated waters by the Dock. It wasn't long ago when one would encounter a fish the size of a basin wander into the lagoon. There was even a time when a stingray scared the beejeezus out of me. I once ventured into the breakers until I spotted a young shark and decided that if it was not where it was supposed to be, I was. Having watched spear and net fishing in the lagoon the last seven years, it is clear that the area has been overfished. I did notice and follow a foot-long chameleon-type oblong fish swim flat and camouflaged on the ground, adapting itself to the color of the sand.

There are sea slugs/sea cucumbers in the lagoon bottom, a delicacy in Sino cuisine, along with sea snakes and numerous small clamshells whose residents have long been digested in many local tummies in afternoon BBQ parties along the shore. Seashells with original dwellers are non-existent, and the grass in the underwater knolls itches the tender skin as it sways with the waves like their cousins on the Papago meadows and hills. But the 15 minutes of quiet floating makes the afternoon dip worth the while.

One gets to be mindful of the body's metabolism. When floating without resisting the currents and the waves, the buoyancy mimics the rhythm of island music and chant. The feel of the undulating waves translate to sounds from 101.1 FM-m-m. The mind stays quiet and tranquil, and with clear goggles, one can see the micro-marine life struggle for survival, reminding one of the many stranded but resilient foreign workers, and the adventurers who came to join them, wait for Uncle Sam's immigration oversight. They scavenge for food in the waters and on land if not eking out a living with buy-and-sell operations of used goods and farm produce. A few procure rubbers for customers in the night, while others conceal inflatable rubber floats!

I hear my heartbeat and feel the blood pressure slow down *sans* 50 mg *atenolol,* but whizzing lungs remind me of scars left by Sobranies and Dunhills, Gauloises and Gitanes, Benson and Hedges and Rothmans, Camels and Winstons, Salems and Marlboros, along with preferred Turkish *Yenice,* Burley and Virginia tobacco that once lit pipes and filled wrapping papers in my youth, smoke dragged through the esophagus and the nasal canal on its way down to darken the lung's pigmentation. Given my parents' record of receding deep into the sunset of their years, I lopped off 10 years on the statistical probability of mine for puffing the aromatic stuff. With a recent introduction to Chunghua #1 in China, I might have to deduct a couple more years!

These daily trysts in the lagoon, and rendezvous with its remaining marine life (it is estimated that 50 percent of the planet's life forms are found under the sea) have become a ritual of a sort that invigorates the body, stretches the muscles, tenderizes the bones, stills the mind, and regulates the heart, even as one notices a shortness of breath, and an alarming under-the-skin puffiness. Time to get a diabetes test! My skin tone came beautiful *au naturel* by birth (a common Pinoy illusion), so I am not worried about sun tan; sufficiently endowed with melanin, I am not anxious about sunburn either, but I do worry about the state of my spirit as the solitary exercise is unavoidably lonesome. When the abounding natural and human struggles for existence are taken seriously, one cannot help but walk away, in this case swim about, with the scars of a battered soul.

But the lagoon is a warm and comforting mistress. It never nags nor complains. It keeps the body light and afloat, and lifts the spirit to heights, depth and breath—an affirmation of the greatness of existence. I think I will remain faithful to her assignations.

# Behind bars for longer than we've been alive

**By SARAH BAECKLER and DEBRA DURHAM**
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Foxie had five babies, including a set of twins. All were taken from her as infants—some when they were just days old.

Captured in the wild as an infant, Negra spent decades in laboratory cages.

Locked up in a windowless basement, Jamie was driven to despair by isolation and began pulling out her own hair.

Such stories are all too common among chimpanzees used in laboratory experiments. But in 2008, Foxie, Negra, Jamie and four other chimpanzees were released from a laboratory to live at Chimpanzee Sanctuary Northwest in Washington state, where their well-being is the top priority.

As primatologists who study and care for these seven chimpanzees, we are deeply concerned about the hundreds of others still locked up in laboratory cages.

The United States is the last nation in the world still using chimpanzees in large-scale invasive experiments. Laboratories in America are allowed to keep chimpanzees in metal cages the size of a kitchen table and deprive them of normal social interaction. Some chimpanzees have been behind bars for more than 50 years—longer than either of us has been alive.

There is finally hope for these amazing animals. The Great Ape Protection Act, a bill in the U.S. House of Representatives, would phase out invasive experiments on chimpanzees and release approximately 500 chimpanzees to permanent sanctuaries.

The bill has strong support from both political parties—142 U.S. representatives have signed on as co-sponsors. The long list of supporters means the bill is more likely to get the attention it deserves, but it still needs more co-sponsors, and it needs a companion bill in the Senate.

Many countries have already banned or sharply restricted research on great apes because of a growing awareness of the scientific problems with these experiments. The United Kingdom, for example, stopped issuing licenses for invasive experiments on chimpanzees back in 1997. In the United States, many chimpanzees are essentially warehoused because they haven't proved useful as models for human diseases.

Toward the end of Foxie's, Negra's and Jamie's time in the laboratory, they were not being used in experiments or forced breeding. They sat in cages in a windowless basement. The private Pennsylvania facility that owned them and the four other chimpanzees who ended up in Washington state finally decided to get out of the chimpanzee experimentation business. In June 2008, the seven chimpanzees arrived at the sanctuary pale from lack of sun exposure, muscles atrophied from lack of exercise.

Over the past year and a half, we've witnessed remarkable recoveries in each chimpanzee. Foxie is very curious and watchful. She still takes time to warm up to new people, but is quite playful once she trusts someone. She has adopted a doll to care for—a troll doll with bright pink hair. She carries her troll doll everywhere she goes.

Humans have been amazed by chimpanzees' emotional capabilities and distinct cultural traditions for decades. Jane Goodall's studies of wild chimpanzees first captured our imaginations more than 40 years ago. Chimpanzees continue to astonish us as we learn more about their intelligence, creativity, and complex social lives. But as a nation, we still struggle to extend our compassion to them.

Time is running out. If we don't take action now, hundreds of chimpanzees may never leave their cages. We must urge our representatives to support H.R. 1326 and our senators to introduce a companion bill. This is our chance to pave the way for more happy endings like those at Chimpanzee Sanctuary Northwest.

*Sarah Baeckler is the executive director of Chimpanzee Sanctuary Northwest (http://www.chimpsanctuarynw.org/). Debra Durham is a primatologist and ethologist with the vegan organization Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine (http://pcrm.org). Readers may write to them at PCRM, 5100 Wisconsin Avenue NW, Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20016.*

# Congress has a job to do for workers

**By KIMBERLY FREEMAN BROWN**
PROGRESSIVE MEDIA PROJECT

It's no mystery that work in America just isn't working—not for the millions of unemployed men and women, or for those stuck working longer hours at lower pay.

Our work force is scared, stressed and scarred by financial insecurity. Working conditions may only worsen as our economic climate opens the door for more exploitation.

The National Employment Law Project found that more than two-thirds of low-wage employees surveyed in 2008 lost 15 percent of their pay on average due to the growing problem of wage theft by U.S. employers. An astounding 62 percent of workers surveyed by Nebraska Appleseed Center in 2008 said they had been injured on the job in the previous year.

How can such gross mistreatment be allowed? Because corporations know current labor laws aren't threatening in the least. And they know that our leaders in Washington have prioritized their bottom lines over those of working men and women.

Our nation's leaders have a choice to make. They can continue to turn the other cheek as employers flush job standards down the drain, or they can ensure that the jobs of tomorrow are good, decent jobs that will move Americans into recovery.

Yes, we need to put people to work, and it is imperative that Congress pass legislation to provide incentives for businesses to hire more workers and extend unemployment benefits for those struggling to find jobs and pay the bills.

But make no mistake: We must not let our standards go by the wayside in the name of job creation. We must ensure the jobs that are being created are good jobs.

We can do that by giving workers a stronger voice and a fairer shake through meaningful labor law reform. When Congress meaningfully protects workers' rights to join unions, workers will have a level playing field to improve their workplaces, and a real path to gain job security, better health care and decent benefits. The status quo of awful jobs, a lack of accountability by employers and no sizable progress on making the economy work for everyone is unacceptable.

Our nation's workers have given more than their fair share of sacrifices and patience. They are playing by the rules, they want to rebuild the economy, and they are willing to work harder. They deserve better.

*Kimberly Freeman Brown is the executive director of American Rights at Work, a workers' rights organization based in Washington. Readers may write to the author at: Progressive Media Project, 409 East Main Street, Madison, Wis. 53703; e-mail: pmproj@progressive.org.*

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

| TODAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mostly sunny and breezy with a slight chance of showers. East winds 20 to 25 mph. | Partly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 20 to 25 mph. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. |
| ▲86° ▼76° | ▲86° ▼75° | ▲86° ▼75° | ▲86° ▼76° | ▲86° ▼76° |

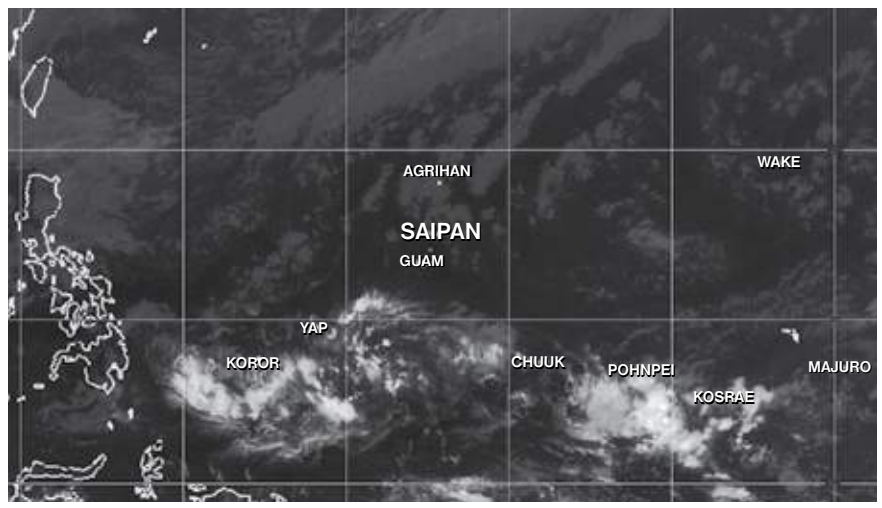
## Micronesia

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Guam and Rota | Partly Sunny | ▲84 | ▼74 |
| Palau | Thunderstorms | ▲85 | ▼77 |
| Yap | Cloudy | ▲84 | ▼76 |
| Chuuk | Showers | ▲88 | ▼77 |
| Pohnpei | Showers | ▲84 | ▼77 |
| Kosrae | Rain | ▲83 | ▼79 |
| Majuro | Showers | ▲84 | ▼79 |

## Around The Globe

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Auckland | Mostly Sunny | ▲66 | ▼60 |
| Beijing | Partly Sunny | ▲41 | ▼38 |
| Hong Kong | Showers | ▲80 | ▼74 |
| Honolulu | Partly Sunny | ▲79 | ▼69 |
| London | Partly Sunny | ▲50 | ▼37 |
| Los Angeles | Partly Sunny | ▲66 | ▼48 |
| Manila | Mostly Cloudy | ▲88 | ▼75 |
| Melbourne | Sunny | ▲78 | ▼54 |
| Miami | Partly Sunny | ▲78 | ▼58 |
| New York | Rain | ▲49 | ▼45 |
| Osaka | Mostly Cloudy | ▲55 | ▼39 |
| Paris | Dreary | ▲43 | ▼36 |
| Pusan | Partly Sunny | ▲59 | ▼45 |
| Rome | Mostly Cloudy | ▲53 | ▼35 |
| Salem | Showers | ▲53 | ▼37 |
| San Francisco | Partly Sunny | ▲58 | ▼44 |
| Seoul | Cloudy | ▲48 | ▼36 |
| Tokyo | Partly Sunny | ▲57 | ▼37 |
| Washington, DC | Rain | ▲56 | ▼51 |

## Yesterday's Satellite Image




**PICTURE TIME: 1:00AM, FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 2010**
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A strong cold front cuts southwestward across the northwest corner of the discussion area from 25N149E to beyond 130E at 15N. Extensive cloudiness and widespread rain are found along and up to 300 miles northwest of the front. A near-equatorial trough stretches northeastward from south of the Philippines through 2N130E to a low-level circulation centered southeast of Yap near 5N141E then turns southeastward to south of Kosrae at 2N164E and continues eastward to beyond 180 at 1N. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are seen near the trough and circulation over Palau but just south of Yap between 5N and 9N from 131E to 142E. Convergence north and east of the circulation is producing scattered showers south of Guam between 5N and 12N from 142E to 151E farther east. Trade-wind convergence north of the near-equatorial trough axis is combining with favorable upper-level winds to trigger scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over Pohnpei and Kosrae within 100 miles of a line from 4N155E to 6N159E to 4N163E to EQ167E. Similar conditions are also occurring over Butaritari and Tarawa atolls but south of Majuro within 165 miles of a line from 5N168E to 2N180. A weak trade disturbance is generating scattered showers north of Kwajalein and Majuro between 8N and 14N from 167E to 175E.

## Tides

**Saipan Harbor**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 12:23 AM | Today | Low Tide: | 0.2 Feet |
| 7:04 AM | Today | High Tide: | 1.8 Feet |
| 12:51 PM | Today | Low Tide: | 0.9 Feet |
| 6:07 PM | Today | High Tide: | 1.8 Feet |

## Sunrise/Sunset

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 6:27 AM | 6:27 PM |
| Sunday | 6:26 AM | 6:27 PM |
| Monday | 6:25 AM | 6:27 PM |
| Tuesday | 6:24 AM | 6:27 PM |
| Wednesday | 6:24 AM | 6:27 PM |

## Moonrise/Moonset

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 4:30 AM | 4:23 PM |
| Sunday | 5:06 AM | 5:09 PM |
| Monday | 5:40 AM | 5:56 PM |
| Tuesday | 6:15 AM | 6:43 PM |
| Wednesday | 6:51 AM | 7:31 PM |

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 6, 2010

### DEPARTURES

**SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| C09597 | 11:30am | 12:05pm | 1, 7 |

**ROTA (ROP)-GUAM**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| C09597 | 12:40pm | 1:10pm | 1, 7 |

**SAIPAN-GUAM**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| C09317 | 4:25am | 5:15am | Daily |
| C09313 | 8:30am | 9:20am | Daily |
| C09597 | 11:30am | 1:10pm | 1, 7 via ROP |
| C09601 | 12:20pm | 1:10pm | 4, 5 |
| C09603 | 3:15pm | 4:05pm | Daily |
| C09605 | 6:20pm | 7:10pm | Daily |
| C09599 | 9:20pm | 10:10pm | Daily |

**SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL638 | 8:00am | 10:55am | Daily |

**SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL287 | 5:50am | 8:40am | Daily |
| DL638/288 | 8:00am | 1:40pm | 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via NGO |
| DL297 | 4:35pm | 7:30pm | Daily |
| DL289 | 4:50pm | 7:45pm | Daily |

**SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ608 | 3:20am | 6:50am | 1, 5 |

**SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ604 | 2:10am | 6:00am | 1 |
| OZ604 | 2:40am | 6:30am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| OZ119 | 4:00am | 11:25am | Daily via Osaka |
| | | Arrive OSA 6:40am, leave OSA 9:30am | |
| OZ606 | 3:20pm | 7:00pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 |

**SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| FM844 | 2:50am | 5:40am | 2, 6 |

**SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CZ3008 | 3:30am | 6:40am | 2, 6 |

**SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ604/701 | 2:10am | 11:50am | 1 via ICN |
| OZ604/701 | 2:40am | 11:50am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| OZ608/705 | 3:20am | 1:30am+1 | 1, 4, 5, 7 via PUS |
| C09603/893 | 3:15pm | 9:10pm | 3, 5 via GUM-PALAU |
| OZ606/703 | 3:20pm | 10:55pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN |
| C09605/933 | 6:20pm | 9:40pm | Daily via GUM |
| C09599/PR111 | 9:20pm | 7:50am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM |

**SAIPAN-HONG KONG**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ604/721 | 2:10am | 12:00pm | 1 via ICN |
| OZ604/721 | 2:40am | 12:00pm | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| OZ606/749 | 3:20pm | 11:00pm | 4, 6, 7 via ICN |

### ARRIVALS

**ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| C09598 | 3:10am | 3:45am | 5, 6 |
| C09312 | 1:20pm | 1:55pm | 6 |

**GUAM-ROTA (ROP)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| C09598 | 2:00am | 2:30am | 5, 6 |
| C09312 | 12:10pm | 12:40pm | 6 |

**GUAM-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| C09316 | 2:00am | 2:50am | 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 |
| C09598 | 2:00am | 3:45am | 5, 6 via ROP |
| C09596 | 7:00am | 7:50am | Daily |
| C09600 | 10:05am | 10:55am | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 |
| C09312 | 12:10pm | 1:55pm | 6 via ROP |
| C09602 | 1:50pm | 2:40pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| C09604 | 4:50pm | 5:40pm | Daily |
| C09606 | 8:00pm | 8:50pm | Daily |

**NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL641 | 9:05pm | 1:35am+1 | Daily |

**NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL290 | 10:00am | 2:30pm | Daily |
| DL298 | 10:15am | 2:45pm | Daily |
| DL287/641 | 5:50pm | 1:35am+1 | 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via NGO |
| DL288 | 9:00pm | 1:40am+1 | Daily |

**BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ607 | 9:00pm | 2:10am+1 | 4, 7 |

**SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ605 | 9:00am | 2:20pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 |
| OZ120 | 7:10pm | 2:20am+1 | Daily via Osaka |
| | | Arrive OSA 8:50pm, leave OSA 9:50pm | |
| OZ603 | 7:40pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 |
| OZ603 | 8:10pm | 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |

**SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| FM843 | 7:15pm | 1:50am+1 | 1, 5 |

**GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CZ3007 | 7:30pm | 2:40am+1 | 1, 5 |

**MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ706/607 | 3:35am | 2:10am+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 via PUS |
| OZ702/603 | 1:10pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ702/603 | 1:10pm | 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| PR110/C09596 | 10:10pm | 7:50am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM |
| C0892/9596 | 10:10pm | 7:50am+1 | 3,5 via PALAU-GUM |
| C0934/9596 | 11:10pm | 7:50am+1 | Daily via GUM |
| OZ704/605 | 11:55pm | 2:20pm+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6 via ICN |

**HONG KONG-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ724/605 | 12:30am | 2:20pm | 2 ,4 ,6, 7 via ICN |
| OZ750/605 | 1:00am | 2:20pm | 2, 4 ,6 ,7 via ICN |
| OZ722/603 | 1:30pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ722/603 | 1:30pm | 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

| Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Guam-Rota** | | | |
| FRE 100 | 7:00am | 7:30am | Daily |
| **Rota-Saipan** | | | |
| FRE 100 | 7:50am | 8:20am | Daily |
| **Saipan-Rota** | | | |
| FRE 200 | 9:00am | 9:30am | Daily |
| **Rota-Guam** | | | |
| FRE 200 | 9:50am | 10:15am | Daily |
| **Guam-Rota** | | | |
| FRE 300 | 4:00pm | 4:30pm | Daily |
| **Rota-Saipan** | | | |
| FRE 300 | 4:50pm | 5:25pm | Daily |
| **Saipan-Rota** | | | |
| FRE 400 | 6:00pm | 6:30pm | Daily |
| **Rota-Guam** | | | |
| FRE 400 | 6:45pm | 7:15pm | Daily |
| **Saipan-Tinian** | | | |
| FRE 101 | 6:45am | 6:55am | Daily |
| FRE 103 | 7:30am | 7:40am | Daily |
| FRE 105 | 8:00am | 8:10am | Daily |
| FRE 107 | 8:40am | 8:50am | Daily |
| FRE 109* | 9:10am | 9:20am | Daily |
| FRE 111* | 10:45am | 10:55am | Daily |

| Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| FRE 113 | 11:40am | 11:50am | Daily |
| FRE 115 | 1:00pm | 1:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 117 | 2:30pm | 2:40pm | Daily |
| FRE 119 | 4:00pm | 4:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 121 | 4:40pm | 4:50pm | Daily |
| FRE 123 * | 5:40pm | 5:50pm | Daily |
| FRE 125 * | 6:00pm | 6:10pm | Daily |
| **Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**** | | | |
| FRE 102 | 7:05am | 7:15am | Daily |
| FRE 104 | 7:50am | 8:00am | Daily |
| FRE 106** | 8:20am | 8:30am | Daily |
| FRE 108** | 9:00am | 9:10am | Daily |
| FRE 110 | 10:00am | 10:10am | Daily |
| FRE 112 | 11:05am | 11:15am | Daily |
| FRE 114 | 12:00pm | 12:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 116 | 1:30pm | 1:40pm | Daily |
| FRE 118 | 2:50pm | 3:00pm | Daily |
| FRE 120** | 4:20pm | 4:30pm | Daily |
| FRE 122** | 5:00pm | 5:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 124 | 6:05pm | 6:15pm | Daily |
| FRE 126 | 6:20pm | 6:30pm | Daily |

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

**PICTURES**

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

**REQUIREMENTS**

**For pictures:**

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

**For announcements:**

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

**HOW TO SUBMIT**

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

**POLICY**

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

**NEWS DESK** For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

**CUSTOMER SERVICE** For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

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**ADVERTISING** For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

## Schedule of Religious Services

### CATHOLIC

**Mt. Carmel Cathedral**
Sunday Mass: 6am, 9am, 11am and 6pm
Monday-Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm

**Korean Center**
Sunday: 10:30am
Wednesday: 10am
Thursday-Friday: 8pm
Saturday: 3pm and 7:30pm

**Kristo Rai Parish**
Sunday Mass: 6am, 8am and 9:30am
Monday- Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm
Saturday: 6am and 6pm

**Nuestra Senora De Soledad Parish**
Wednesday Mass: 6pm
First Friday Healing Mass: 6pm
Saturday Mass: 6pm
Sunday Masses: 7:30am & 9am

**Saint Jude Parish**
Sunday: 6am, 8am, 10am
Wednesday and Thursday: 6pm

**San Antonio Parish**
Sunday: 6am and 8am
Tuesday and Friday: 6pm

**San Francisco de Borja-Rota**
Sunday: 6am and 8am
Monday-Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6pm

**San Isidro-Rota**
Sunday: 5am and 10am
Monday-Wednesday: 7pm
Thursday-Saturday: 5am and 7pm

**San Jose (Oleai) Parish**
Sunday: 6am and 7:30am
Tuesday-Wednesday and Friday-Saturday: 6pm

**San Roque Parish**
Sunday: 9am
Wednesday: 6pm
Saturday: 10:30am

**San Vicente Parish**
Sunday: 6am, 9am and 6pm
Monday-Saturday: 6pm

**Santa Remedios**
Sunday: 7:30am
Tuesday: 6pm
Saturday: 10am-Baptism

**Santa Soledad**
Sunday: 7:30am

### PROTESTANT

**Born Again Christian (Upper Room Int'l Ministries), Saipan**
Wednesday Prayer and Healing Night: 8-10:30pm
Saturday Tagalog Service: 8-10:30pm
Sunday English Service: 9:30-11am
Sunday School for Children: 10-11am
Sunday Filipino Service: 7-9pm

**Calvary Baptist Church, Saipan**
Sunday School: 9am
Sunday Morning Worship: 10am
Sunday Evening Worship: 6pm
Wednesday Prayer Service: 7pm

**Chinese Christian Church of Saipan**
Worship Services: Sunday, 10am and 7:30pm
Bible Study: Tuesday-Friday, 9:25pm

**Cornerstone Christian Church, Saipan**
Worship/Study Opportunities
Adult Sunday School: 9am
Youth Sunday School: 9am
English Worship Service Sunday: 10am
Sunday Service: 5:30pm
Worship/Fellowship Sunday: 9:30pm
Evangelism/Follow-up: Sunday/Monday: 1:30/7:30pm
Worship Team: Monday/Saturday-9pm;
Cell Groups Tuesday: 7:30pm
Mid-week Service: 7:30pm
Prayer Meeting Wednesday: 7:30pm
Leader's Bible Study Friday: 7:30 pm
Cornerstone School of Ministry Saturday: 7:30pm

**Episcopal/Anglican Church on Saipan**
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Worship Service Sunday: Holy Communion 9:00am
Place: Vicarage, Chalan Laulau,
Call 235-0545 for directions

**Grace Christian Assembly, Saipan**
Worship Service: 9am
GBI Classes: 4-6pm
Prayer Meeting: Monday-Saturday: 6am
Sunday: 7am
Home Cell Bible Study: Wednesday-Friday: 7pm
Youth Service: Friday: 5:30pm

**Iglesia Ni Cristo, Saipan**
Wednesday: 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Thursday: 5:30am (English); 7:45 pm (English)
Saturday: 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Sunday: 6:45am (English)
Children Worship Service: Sunday, 9am (English)

**Immanuel United Methodist Church Koblerville**
Sunday Services
9:00 AM
Place of the church-next to Mt. Carmel Cathedral on Chalan Kanoa Dr. • Tel: 322-6158
Pastor JJ Matsumoto

**Immanuel Methodist Church (Filipino Congregation)**
Sunday: 7:00am-Choir Rehearsal
8:00am-Church Service (Tagalog)
9:15am-Sunday School
Wednesday: 6:30pm, home group
8:00pm-Prayer Meeting
Thursday: 7:30pm-Choir Practice (Church)
Saturday: 8:00pm-Choir Practice (Parsonage)

**Jesus is Lord Church, Saipan**
English Service: 9-11am, Sunday
Tagalog Service: 6-8pm, Sunday

**Korean Presbyterian Church, Saipan**
Sunday School: 8:20am
Sunday Adult: 10am
Sunday Adult: 11:30am
Sunday Evening: 7:30pm
Wednesday: 8pm

**Life in the Son Christian Fellowship, Saipan**
Sunday Worship Service: 10am–12noon
Tuesday: Leadership Institute 7pm-10pm
Wednesday: Corporate prayer 7pm-8pm
Last Friday of the month-prayer: 7pm-11pm
Friday: Youth on Fire: 7pm-9pm
Tel. No. 235-LIFE (5433)

**Marianas Baptist Church, Saipan**
English Worship Service: 9-10:30am
Evening Worship Service: 6-7pm
Children Sunday School: 9-10:30am
Tagalog Sunday School: 11am-12pm
English Sunday School: 11am-12pm
Korean Worship Service: 11am-12pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting:
English, 7pm-8pm
Korean: 8:30pm-9:30pm

**Missions Connection Ministry**
Every Sunday Celebrations:
10am (English), 6pm (Tagalog)
Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm
Youth Impact Friday: 7pm
Saturday Prayer Meeting: 7pm

**Northern Marianas Christian Church**
Sunday Worship Service 10am Fina Sisu Housing FS#1 (Child care will be provided)
Friday Services @ 7pm Fina Sisu FS#1 for more info pls. contact Ryan 484-2620

**Saipan Bible Fellowship Church**
Sunday School: 9:30-10am
Divine Worship: 10am-11:30am
Evening Service: 7pm-8:30pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 8pm-9pm

**Saipan Christian Church**
Sunday: 7:30am-10am
Sunday: 6:30 pm -9pm
Monday: 8 pm -10pm (Prayer Meeting)
Thursday: 8pm-10pm (Cell Groups)

**Saipan Church of Christ**
Sunday Bible Class: 9am
Sunday Worship: 10am
Sunday Worship English: 6pm
Sunday Worship Tagalog: 7pm
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:30pm

**Saipan Community Church**
(Sunday Services)
Palau Service: 7:30am-9am
English Service: 10am-11:30am
Chuukese Service: 1pm-2:30pm
Filipino Service: 5:00pm-7:00pm

**Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Saipan**
(Saturday Church Services)
Sabbath School Program: 9-10am
Lesson Study: 10-10:40am
Divine Service: 11-12pm
Visitation: 3-4pm
Adventist Youth Program: 4:30-5:30pm
Sundown Worship: 6-7pm

**First Baptist Church**
(Formerly Saipan Baptist Church)
Afetna St., San Antonio
Sunday
9am Sunday school
10am Regular worship
6pm worship
Wednesday
7pm worship
Everyone is warmly welcome to attend our worship services. Transportation is readily available to anyone who needs a ride to our church. For further information, please call Pastor David M. Mclure at 234-1939/235-7779.

**Thy Word Ministries Saipan Faith Center**
Phone 234-0209
New Christian Charismatic Church Service located in Chalan Paio, Beach Road in the Sablan building on the 2nd floor above Subway Sandwiches.
Senior Pastors: George & Gail Kamakahi
Asst. Pastors: Eric & Penny Sakaguchi
Service Times
Sunday 10:00am Worship Service
Sunday 7pm Discipleship Classes
Tuesday 10:00am Bible Studies
Tuesday 6:00pm Intercessory Prayer
Tuesday 7:00pm Music Practice
Wednesday 7:00pm Mid-Week Service
Saturday 10:00am Evangelism

**Upper Room International Ministries**
Sunday 5:30am-6:30am
Morning prayer
7am-9am English service
7am-9am Sunday school
10am-12noon English service, Koblerville
Wednesday 7pm-9pm Prayer meeting
Saturday 7pm-9pm Tagalog service
Venue: Jason Presbyterian Church
Gualo Rai, Saipan

**Victory Chapel Christian Fellowship Church**
Sunday School: 9:30am
Sunday AM Worship:10:30am
Sunday PM Worship:7:00am
Wed Worship: 7:30pm
Prayer 45 min. Prior to Service Times
Morning Prayer: 6-8am M-S

## Flashback
A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

### MARCH 13, 2000

**Reyes calms CUC's fears of power rate hike**
Senate Floor Leader Pete P. Reyes assured the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation that his proposal reinstating the 80-megawatt power plant on Saipan will not lead to higher electricity rates for both residential and commercial customers. He said the bill is in fact seeking the retention of the price offered by bidders on the proposed plant despite rising inflation in order to ensure that power rates will not go up once it becomes operational. "I think CUC is reading too much into the bill. There's nothing in there that says that power rates will be increased," Mr. Reyes told in an interview yesterday.

**CDA goes slow in lending**
The increase in the volume of unpaid loans, manifested by the 13 percent delinquency rate in 1999, has forced the Commonwealth Development Authority to go slow in its lending activities since the beginning of last year. Between January and September 1999, the government's lending arm approved only about $6 million in total loans, which is far below when compared to even the previous year's third quarter at $8.8 million. Only about $1 million worth of direct and guaranteed loans were injected into the local economy during the third quarter of last year, lower than the previous period's $5.2 million.

### MARCH 13, 2001

**NMC expects to entice students from all over Micronesia**
Making history as the first junior college in the Pacific to be granted initial accreditation to offer a Bachelor's Degree in Education, the Northern Marianas College is eyed to serve as a training hub for the region's aspiring teachers. College officials led by president Jack Sablan yesterday broached on the merits of the college's new and unique accreditation status as confirmed by both the senior and junior commissions of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. NMC Dean of Instruction and Accreditation Liaison Barbara Moir particularly cited an apparently growing demand of students from outside the Commonwealth who have expressed interest to pursue a four-year Education degree with the college, a campus within easy reach especially for students in the Western Pacific region.

**OPA wants salary hike for all govt employees**
Ignoring what seems to be for the best interest of his office, Public Auditor Michael Sablan is favoring the implementation of a salary cap increase across all agencies of government. "Exempting the OPA from the salary cap would be unfair. I know it would benefit the OPA if the Senate allows the exemption, but I'm looking at the overall picture here," Sablan said. The Public Auditor said he agrees with positions held by the Office of Personnel Management and the Attorney General's Office which both opposed the exemption. "We have some qualified people at finance and at revenue and tax, public works, at the hospitals and the college, who are also equally deserving of higher salaries like employees of the OPA," Sablan stressed.

### MARCH 13, 2002

**Mishap prompts DPS self-examination**
Monday's hit-and-run incident involving a police car has pushed the Department of Safety to rethink policies relating to its government vehicles, on cue with the administration's cost-saving efforts. Public Safety Commissioner Edward C. Camacho yesterday disclosed that the department is looking at implementing changes to its vehicle "take-home" program, realizing that Car. No. 20 figured in an accident at a time when it was not supposed to be on patrol. The department is particularly thinking of putting a stop to the "take-home" program, with exception to police officers who hold sergeant-level-and-above ranks.

**Ban on fuel stocks at beaches mulled**
To protect tourists from the hazards of fuel, the Coastal Resources Management Office said it is thinking of revising its permit for jetski operations to prohibit the stockpiling of gasoline refills on beach concessions. CRMO acting administrator Joaquin Salas said he realized the need for the prohibition after joining enforcement teams in conducting inspections, where he noticed tourists lighting cigarettes at the beach, exposing them to a risk of a possible fire if fuel stocks are accidentally ignited. "That's a safety concern-the proximity of the cigarettes with the gas containers," Salas said. He then met with jetski operators and discussed the problem.

# Business

## Most Americans are slowly regaining their lost wealth

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Americans are recovering their shrunken wealth—gradually. Household net worth rose last quarter, mainly because the healing economy boosted stock portfolios. But the gain was slight. And it was less than in the previous two quarters.

The Federal Reserve said Thursday that net worth rose 1.3 percent in the fourth quarter to $54.2 trillion. It marked the third straight quarter of gains. But economists say consumers would need a stronger and more prolonged increase in their wealth to persuade them to ratchet up spending.

Net worth had risen by a more robust 4.5 percent in the second quarter of 2009 and an even faster 5.5 percent in the third quarter. Net worth is the value of assets such as homes, checking accounts and investments minus debts like mortgages and credit cards.

Even with the gain, Americans' net worth would have to rise an additional 21 percent just to get back to its pre-recession peak of $65.9 trillion. That illustrates Americans' vast loss of wealth from the worst downturn since the 1930s.

Growth in stock portfolios delivered the biggest lift to net worth in the October-to-December period. The value of stocks rose by nearly 4 percent to $7.7 trillion. Higher home prices helped a bit. The value of real-estate holdings edged up 0.2 percent.

## Toyota 'mystified' by runaway Prius

**JACUMBA, Calif.** (AP)—A Toyota executive said Thursday the company is "mystified" by a report that a California man's Prius gas pedal became stuck and caused the car to speed out of control on a California freeway.

James Sikes quickly became the face of the Toyota gas pedal scandal after he called 911 to report losing control of his Prius on Monday. His car reached nerve-rattling speeds of 94 mph before an officer helped bring it to a stop.

Federal investigators are looking into the incident, and Toyota officials said they have talked extensively to Sikes.

A law firm representing Sikes said Thursday he has no plans to sue Toyota over the ordeal. A phone message left for the firm seeking additional comment wasn't immediately returned.

Don Esmond, senior vice president of automotive operations for Toyota Motor Sales, said all Priuses are equipped with a computer system that cuts power to the wheels if the brake and gas pedals are depressed at the same time—something Sikes was doing.

"It's tough for us to say if we're skeptical. I'm mystified in how it could happen with the brake override system," he said.

He attributed the bulk of problematic Toyota acceleration reports to faulty floor mats that trap the gas pedal.

## Export growth the bright spot for US

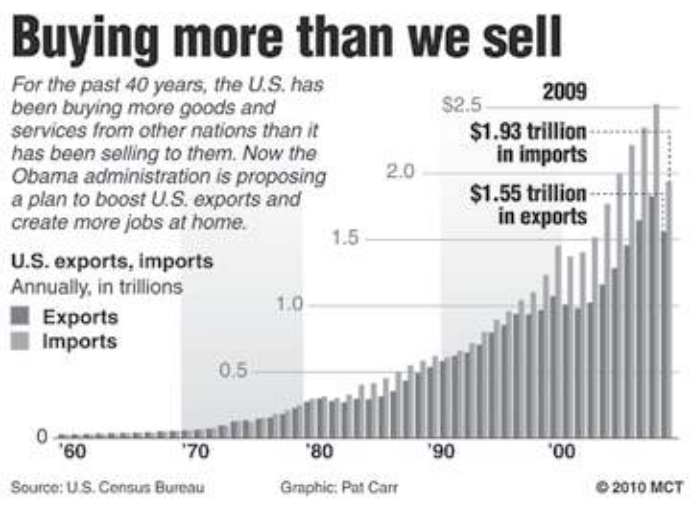
**WASHINGTON** (AP)—U.S. exports dipped in January, the government said Thursday, but economists weren't fazed. They predict export growth will be a bright spot for American manufacturers through the rest of 2010.

President Barack Obama is banking on further improvement to help meet his ambitious goal of doubling exports within five years and creating 2 million U.S. jobs.

Economists question whether Obama's goals are achievable. But many think exports will keep expanding. A rebounding global economy and a resumption in the dollar's slide would help spark demand for U.S. goods.

This is expected to occur even though the dollar has risen against the euro over worries about Europe's debt crisis. A higher dollar makes U.S. goods more expensive for foreigners.

Obama laid out his export-promotion program in a speech Thursday. He called the effort key to repairing damage from a recession that's eliminated 8.4 million jobs.



# Nation

## ACROSS THE NATION

### 4 killed by trains in accidents in NJ, NY, Pa.

**TRENTON, N.J.** (AP)—Authorities say four people were fatally struck by trains in the Northeast. The first death occurred in Mercer County in New Jersey on Thursday morning when Amtrak's Keystone 642 train hit a person near the Hamilton Township station. The second accident occurred in New York City when a 48-year-old woman was crushed by a subway train on Thursday afternoon. Police spokesman Paul Browne says may have tried to retrieve a bag on the tracks. On Thursday evening, a man was struck by a New Jersey Transit commuter train near the East Orange station. And Amtrak says someone was hit about 9:15 p.m. in Philadelphia by a Northeast Regional train. The accidents caused travel delays, but no one aboard the trains was hurt.

### ACLU sues over violence at private prison in Idaho

**BOISE, Idaho** (AP)—The American Civil Liberties Union sued state prison officials and a private company Thursday, claiming violence is so rampant at the Idaho Correctional Center that it's known as "gladiator school" among inmates. The ACLU filed the lawsuit against Nashville, Tenn.-based Corrections Corporation of America in U.S. District Court in Boise. The lawsuit says Idaho's only private prison is extraordinarily violent, with guards deliberately exposing inmates to brutal beatings from other prisoners as a management tool. The group contends the prison then denies injured inmates medical care to save money and hide the extent of injuries. Steve Owen, Corrections Corporation of America's director of public affairs, said the company would respond to the lawsuit through court filings.

### Autopsy: Animal fatally mauled teacher in Alaska

**ANCHORAGE, Alaska** (AP)—Wolves likely killed a teacher jogging alone along a rural Alaska village road, public safety officials said Thursday. The Alaska State Medical Examiner listed "multiple injuries due to animal mauling" as the cause of death for Candice Berner, 32, a special education teacher from Pennsylvania who began working in Alaska in August. Her body was found off the road a mile outside the village of Chignik Bay on the Alaska Peninsula, which is about 474 miles southwest of Anchorage. The autopsy could not say which animals, said Col. Audie Holloway, head of the Alaska State Troopers, but wolves are the chief suspect. "There's no other carnivores in that area that are out and active," he said.

### Mass. club pleads no contest in boy's Uzi death

**SPRINGFIELD, Mass.** (AP)—A Massachusetts sporting club is donating $10,000 to children's charities as part of a deal settling criminal charges in the death of an 8-year-old boy who accidentally shot himself in the head with an Uzi during a gun fair. Christopher Bizilj's parents approved the Westfield Sportsman's Club's plea deal reached Thursday in Hampden Superior Court, where his mother's written description of their grief left the judge visibly shaken. "We trusted this event would be fun and safe," Suzanne Bizilj wrote in a statement read in court by a family attorney. "My family has been ripped apart, and relationships have been badly damaged." Christopher, a third-grader from Ashford, Conn., died after the accidental shooting during an October 2008 gun fair at the Westfield club. His father, Dr. Charles Bizilj, and brother were a few feet away. Three men who arranged the gun fair and provided the weapons are scheduled to stand trial in June.

### Reid's wife, daughter injured in highway accident

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid's wife was hospitalized with a broken back and neck Thursday after a tractor-trailer truck slammed into the back of the minivan in which she and their daughter were riding on an interstate highway in suburban Virginia, officials said. Reid's wife, Landra, 69, whose injuries were not believed to be life-threatening, and their daughter, Lana Barringer, 49, were taken by ambulance to Inova Fairfax Hospital in Falls Church, Va. The daughter was released from the hospital Thursday night, according to a staffer with the hospital's patient information service. Mrs. Reid was listed in serious condition, Reid aides said, but was not expected to require surgery. She was being treated in the hospital's trauma intensive care unit, said the hospital staffer, who declined to give his name.

## Al-Qaida seen eyeing less complex attacks on US

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Ever since al-Qaida attacked the United States in 2001, U.S. authorities have worked to detect and prevent the next big terrorist strike.

But officials and counterterrorism experts say the Christmas airline plot and last November's shooting at Fort Hood, Texas, may have shown al-Qaida that smaller-scale attacks also can prove unsettling, without the complexity and risk of bigger attempts.

The Christmas Day attempt to bring down a Detroit-bound flight—allegedly by a young Nigerian man with explosives in his underwear—was not successful. The attempt, however, shook the government, set agencies against each other and led to months of political second-guessing.

Short of mass casualties, the attack produced the kind of reaction that al-Qaida desires.

Now it appears that the group, which has prided itself on its ideological purism, seems to be eyeing a more pragmatic and perhaps more dangerous shift in tactics. The emerging message appears to be that big successes are great, but sometimes simply trying can be just as good.

It's not clear what Osama bin Laden and his senior leaders are thinking and plotting. But U.S.-born al-Qaida spokesman Adam Gadahn made a public pitch for such smaller, single acts of jihad in a recent Internet video.

"Even apparently unsuccessful attacks on Western mass transportation systems can bring major cities to a halt, cost the enemy billions and send his corporations into bankruptcy," Gadahn said in the video.

Officials believe this message has been evolving for the past year. It's turned upside down the prevailing wisdom that the next attack must be bigger and bolder than the one on Sept. 11, 2001.

"It's pretty clear that while al-Qaida would still love to have home runs, they will take singles and doubles if they can get them," said Bruce Riedel, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution Saban Center and a former CIA officer. "And that makes the job of counterterrorism much, much harder."

The partisan bickering that followed the Christmas bombing may have played into al-Qaida's hands.

Counterterrorism officials note that al-Qaida leaders monitor the U.S. closely and watched the reverberations of the attack. They saw the scramble to boost security, the members of Congress criticizing agencies for intelligence and screening failures, the political drumbeat against the Obama administration's national security efforts and the agency leaders who rushed to blame each other.

The shift is ideological as well as tactical. Before Gadahn's latest video message, al-Qaida leaders bin Laden and Ayman al-Zawahiri had not seemed to embrace the call for smaller, more singular insurgent operations.

**PLANE CRASH** AP

Authorities at look the wreckage of an airplane after crashed into a hangar in Chandler, Ariz. The World War II-era plane crashed as it was trying to land at Chandler's Stellar Airpark, killing the pilot, authorities said.

## Obama says he's committed to immigration overhaul

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—President Barack Obama on Thursday assured immigration advocates frustrated by the wait for a promised overhaul of U.S. immigration laws that he remains committed to fixing a system he has said is broken. What remains unclear is whether Congress will send him a bill this year.

Obama also met separately later in the day with Sens. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., and Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., who gave the president an outline of a bill they are drafting. Obama said afterward in a statement that he "looked forward to reviewing their promising framework."

Obama said he told the senators and the advocacy groups that "my commitment to comprehensive immigration reform is unwavering, and that I will continue to be their partner in this important effort."

Obama

The immigration issue is an important one for Obama, who has promised to work to solve the problem. Hispanics voted heavily for Obama in the 2008 presidential election, making the difference in key states like Florida, and their votes will be critical in the November midterm elections when Obama and his fellow Democrats will be fighting to maintain control of the House and Senate.

Latino voters who don't think progress is being made on the issue may not go to the polls.

Graham said he told Obama "in no uncertain terms" that the immigration effort could stall in Congress if the health care bill, which Republicans oppose, moves forward under a special process known as budget reconciliation that would limit the GOP's ability to derail the bill in the Senate.

## Feds recall more children jewelry in cadmium probe

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Federal safety regulators recalled a line of holiday-themed bracelets Thursday, expanding their effort to purge children's jewelry boxes and store shelves of items containing high levels of the toxic metal cadmium.

The latest action by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission targeted "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer"-themed charm bracelets that released alarmingly high levels of cadmium in government lab tests, suggesting children could be exposed to a carcinogen that also can damage kidneys and bones.

The chain-link bracelets were sold at dollar-type stores between 2006 and March 2009 and feature characters from the classic Christmas movie, including Rudolph and the abominable snowman, as well as snowflakes and candy canes. The agency said parents should immediately take the bracelets from kids and throw them away.

It was the second cadmium-related recall by the government since an Associated Press investigation earlier this year found that some children's jewelry, including the Rudolph charms, was made almost entirely with the heavy metal.

The commission said that the recall may not be the government's last action on the matter as it continues to investigate cadmium in jewelry. But while the full extent of cadmium's presence in children's jewelry is not known, the commission is apparently not conducting wider market surveillance to see what other items on store shelves contain high cadmium levels.

The agency said in its announcement that there have been no known cadmium poisonings associated with the bracelets.

## Tips, IDs follow release of serial killer's photos

**HUNTINGTON BEACH, Calif.** (AP)—California police say they are receiving calls from the public after releasing more than 100 photos apparently taken by convicted serial killer Rodney Alcala in the 1970s, but tip gathering has been hampered by phone problems at police headquarters.

Huntington Beach police Detective Sgt. Aaron Smith said Thursday a few people called to identify themselves in the photos, but so far no one has said that someone in the photos went missing.

Smith says a phone line was accidentally cut during construction outside the station Thursday. Emergency and 911 phone lines are still working.

Prosecutors say Alcala used his camera to gain the trust of young women and now they fear photographs he snapped decades ago could contain images of more potential victims.

Hundreds of Alcala's photographs, apparently taken before his first arrest in 1979, were released by Huntington Beach police Wednesday, featuring women and girls in candid and posed shots. Some show them naked and engaging in sex acts.

# Asia

## Bomb outside Pakistan store kills 4

**PESHAWAR, Pakistan** (AP)—A homemade bomb placed outside a store in northwestern Pakistan where locals watch movies exploded Thursday, killing four people, including a child, said officials.

The attack, which also wounded 21 people, occurred on the outskirts of Peshawar, a city near the Afghan border that experienced a wave of bombings at the end of last year but has been fairly quiet in recent months.

Officials earlier said the explosion was caused by three suicide bombers who were attempting to attack a security convoy. It was unclear what prompted the erroneous report.

The shop that bore the brunt of the blast often screened movies on a large television, said Liaquat Ali Khan. The explosion also damaged three other shops nearby, he said.

Two men were killed instantly, while two others, including a child, succumbed to their injuries after arriving at a local hospital, said medical official Jamal Shah.

The bomb appeared to contain some 11 pounds (5 kilograms) of explosives, said police explosives expert Shafqat Malik.

Pakistan has been plagued by a Taliban-led insurgency that has killed thousands of people over the past few years, many of them in the volatile northwest. The government has fought back with a series of military offensives to deny militants sanctuary along the Afghan border.

## Chinese zoo blamed for death of 11 Siberian tigers

AP

In this Jan. 8, 2010 file photo, an endangered Siberian tiger runs away with a chicken tossed by tourists at the Harbin Tiger Park in Harbin in northeastern China's Heilongjiang province.

**BEIJING** (AP)—Eleven rare Siberian tigers kept in small cages and fed only chicken bones have died of malnutrition at a cash-strapped zoo in China's frigid northeast, state media said Friday.

A manager at the Shenyang Forest Wild Animal Zoo in Liaoning province, however, said the animals had died of disease.

Siberian tigers are one of the world's rarest species, with just 300 believed remaining in the wild.

Liu Xiaoqiang, vice chief of the Shenyang Wild Animal Protection Station, a local animal protection agency, was quoted by the China Daily as saying 11 of the zoo's tigers died of malnutrition in the last three months after subsisting on a meager diet of chicken bones.

Two others were shot dead by police in November after the hungry animals attacked a zookeeper, the report said.

The Liaoshen Evening Post, a local Shenyang newspaper, reported on its Web site that the company that owns the zoo was trying unsuccessfully to auction the zoo property, and many staffers complained they hadn't been paid in 18 months.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Myanmar's Suu Kyi denounces new election laws

**YANGON, Myanmar** (AP)—Detained Myanmar opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi said she is surprised but undaunted at the military government's new election laws that will bar her from running for office or even voting in polls to be held this year. The Nobel peace laureate described the laws as "repressive" and "unjust" and called for a strong response from supporters of her democracy movement, but has not yet specified what they should do, her party spokesman Nyan Win said Thursday. The country's ruling junta enacted five election-related laws Monday to govern polling to be held some time this year. Several provisions severely curtail Suu Kyi's involvement in the polls, even if she were to be freed from house arrest before her term ends in November.

#### Aussie 'miracle' elephant baby gaining strength

**SYDNEY** (AP)—An elephant calf that was believed to have died during a nine-day labor is feeding itself and has earned the nickname "Mr. Shuffles" since learning to stand, Taronga Zoo officials said Thursday. Keepers said Tuesday that the calf had died during the difficult labor, which started March 1. But a live calf was born early Wednesday to mother Porntip. "Despite no vital signs of life for several days, we now have obviously a healthy little calf on the ground," Taronga Zoo director Cameron Kerr told reporters Thursday. He said the calf had turned upside down during the traumatic labor and may have entered a coma, fooling zoo vets into thinking it had died. When it was born at 3:27 a.m. on Wednesday, zoo officials called it a miracle. New mother Porntip, 18 years old and the matriarch of the zoo herd, is being very gentle with her newborn, which weighs a healthy 256 pounds (116 kilograms), Kerr said.

#### Bomb kills 5 Afghan civilians, including 4 kids

**KABUL** (AP)—A homemade bomb killed four children and a civilian adult in northeastern Afghanistan on Thursday, NATO forces said. Meanwhile, a NATO service member died in a bomb strike in the south. The alliance did not provide the nationality of the person who died or further details. There were also few details on the morning explosion in northeastern Kapisa province, north of the capital of Kabul. International and Afghan troops evacuated at least three other children who were wounded in the explosion to military hospitals.

#### Japan arrests whaling activist for boarding ship

**TOKYO** (AP)—Japan's coast guard arrested an anti-whaling activist from New Zealand on Friday for illegally boarding a Japanese whaling ship last month, an official said. Peter Bethune, a member of the U.S.-based Sea Shepherd activist group, is accused of jumping aboard the whaling vessel from a Jet Ski on Feb. 15 in Antarctic seas, where Japan was conducting its annual whale hunt. Coast guard spokesman Tomonobu Higashi confirmed Bethune's arrest. Boarding a Japanese vessel without legitimate reasons can bring a prison term of up to three years or a fine up to 100,000 yen ($1,100).

# World

### AFTER TWO DAYS OF WARFARE

## 43 Somalis die in capital

**MOGADISHU, Somalia** (AP)—Heavy fighting between Somali insurgents and pro-government troops has killed at least 43 people over two days, as African Union peacekeepers used tanks to help the beleaguered government beat back an insurgent attack, officials said Thursday.

Militants attacking from the north on Wednesday reached to within a mile (2 kilometers) of the presidential place in the heart of the capital, Mogadishu, before African Union peacekeepers in tanks reinforced government troops, residents said.

Ali Muse, the head of Mogadishu's ambulance service, said he saw 40 bodies lying in the streets over the two days of fighting Wednesday and Thursday. Nearly 150 were wounded, mostly civilians, he said.

"The fighting was heavier than that of yesterday," said Muse. "Our ambulances are sometimes caught in the crossfire. Our ambulance crews use dangerous streets and they have to dodge mortars and bullets. Sometimes it takes us hours to reach injured civilians and because of that they bleed to death."

Three of the wounded brought in Wednesday died overnight, said Abdi Mahad, a doctor at Medina Hospital.

"A mortar shell has just fallen into the house next to me. We can hear neighbors crying and can see smoke over their building, but I do not know if there is a casualty," Sahra Haji Abdulle said by phone from her home in northern Mogadishu. "We could hardly sleep last night. The sky was lit up by shelling all night. We have nowhere to escape."

More than half of those living in Somalia's seaside capital have fled. Those remaining are mostly too poor to move or fear being attacked as they leave. Compounding their dilemma, an Islamist group issued a series of demands at the beginning of the year that caused the U.N.'s World Food Program to pull out of much of southern Somalia. Soon families fleeing into the countryside may find nothing to eat.

## Strong quakes torment Chile as president sworn in

**SANTIAGO, Chile** (AP)—The earth shook and shook Thursday as dignitaries walked in for the swearing-in of Sebastian Pinera as Chile's president. It shook some more as they waited for him.

People in the balconies of the vast congressional hall in coastal Valparaiso shouted warnings as a massive light fixture rocked overhead, and heads of state nervously eyed the ceiling. But a steely calm prevailed, and Pinera strode in smiling.

The president and his ministers then quickly swore their oaths, and the audience of 2,000 headed for the exits and the hills, joining an evacution called out of concern that Thursday's repeated aftershocks would set off another tsunami.

Inauguration Day was peppered with more than a dozen significant aftershocks, amply demonstrating Pinera's challenges after last month's magnitude-8.8 quake, one of the biggest in modern history.

Chile's first elected right-wing president in 52 years won office promising to improve the economy. Now, he says he'll be the "reconstruction president." His advice to citizens: "Let's dry our tears and put our hands to work."

But relief efforts stalled Thursday as more than 10 earthquakes shook Chile in a span of six hours. The strongest, at 6.9, nearly matched the 7.0-magnitude quake that devastated Haiti on Jan. 12.

Pinera said there were no reports of more deaths, but a key highway suffered more damage in the inland city of Rancagua, and violent waves hit the coastal towns of Pichilemu and Bucalemu, Interior Minister Rodrigo Hinzpeter said.

## In Mexico, gay couples celebrate historic weddings

**MEXICO CITY** (AP)—Two glowing brides in matching white gowns and four other same-sex couples made history in Mexico City on Thursday as they wed under Latin America's first law that explicitly approves gay marriage.

Mayor Marcelo Ebrard was a guest of honor at the weddings of Judith Vazquez and Lol Kin Castaneda and the other couples who tied the knot in a city building, despite harsh criticism from the Roman Catholic Church and a campaign against the measure by President Felipe Calderon's conservative National Action Party.

Vazquez, a 45-year-old small-business owner, and Castaneda, a 33-year-old psychologist, signed and put their thumb print on the official documents. Then they sealed their union with a kiss amid cheers from family and friends gathered in the colonial-era building's courtyard, decorated with calla lilies, banners with the colors of Mexico's flag and a sign that read "Tolerance, Liberty, Equality, Solidarity."

"This is the mark of freedom," said Vazquez, raising her thumb.

Vazquez said she and Castaneda have considered themselves married ever since they moved in together six years ago.

"The difference today is that the state will recognize it," she said while getting her hair done at home before the wedding. "This is a victory for all. ... For us this is a day of celebration."

AP

Yanis Alva, left and Emma Villanueva kiss after getting married at City Hall in Mexico City, Thursday, March 11, 2010. The couples wed under Latin America's first law that explicitly approves gay marriage.

# Maharlika

PINOY LIFE IN THE MARIANAS

Saturday, March 13, 2010


# Pacquiao calm, confident for fight vs Clottey

By JAIME ARON
AP SPORTS WRITER

**ARLINGTON, Texas** (AP)—Manny Pacquaio arrived at Cowboys Stadium on Wednesday in a bus covered with his likeness, the seats filled with members of his entourage.

He walked into the formal part of his appearance wearing a straw hat and a dark blazer. He quickly swapped the sports coat for a red jacket featuring his MP logo in golden thread.

He talked about his upcoming election for Congress in his homeland, the Philippines.

He talked about singing—rehearsing with his band the night before, with another session later Wednesday night, all in preparation for a performance at the after-party following his fight Saturday night.

Oh, yeah. The fight.

Billed as "The Event," Pacquiao is facing Joshua Clottey on Saturday night in boxing's debut at the $1.2 billion Cowboys Stadium.

It's an intriguing matchup perfect for a football stadium—Pacquiao's furious offense against Clottey's dedication to defense—and it'll look amazing on giant video boards towering over the ring.

A sellout crowd of 45,000 is expected, with the attendance possibly soaring if Cowboys owner Jerry Jones decides to sell standing-room-only tickets.

AP

Boxers Manny Pacquiao, left, and Joshua Clottey pose after a news conference at Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, Texas, on Wednesday, March 10, 2010. Pacquiao and Clottey square off in a welterweight bout at the stadium on Saturday.

And, of course, there's the pay-per-view audience that promoter Bob Arum said is likely to top the hoped-for total of 700,000.

Put the pieces together, and it all makes perfect sense: The WBO welterweight champion—already considered the best fighter in the world, pound for pound—is treating this entire week as one big performance, especially if he wins that election and decides to devote more time to politics than pugilism.

"I'm inspired to give a good show, to do my best," Pacquiao said, smiling. "To impress the people, you have to make your best (effort)."

Then trainer Freddie Roach jumped in, cranking up the hype.

"There's no stage big enough for Manny Pacquiao," Roach said. "He loves it, and I love it. He's going to perform for the crowd. He'll entertain all 45,000. He'll entertain everybody."

Roach said the adrenaline surge that's going to come from walking into the ring in these surroundings already has been factored into the game plan. That likely means even more punches from Pacquiao (50-3-2), who is already known for throwing plenty.

Then again, Clottey (35-3) is known for blocking punches. The 32-year-old Ghana native also has never been knocked out—he's been knocked down only once.

"Blocking punches doesn't win fights," Roach said. "I think we can stop him in the late rounds. The accumulation of punches he'll be taking in this fight he's never seen before. ... I don't think he'll be able to handle it."

Clottey is taller and with a longer reach. He's never been stopped cold, with his few losses including a disqualification in 1999 and a split decision to Miguel Cotto in his last bout, in June.

Clottey was given this opportunity against Pacquiao when the proposed megafight with Floyd Mayweather Jr. fell through. He's very appreciative for this opportunity and has nothing but nice things to say about Pacquiao.

It's Roach who rankles him, from the predicted result to talk of a head butt being one of Clottey's best punches.

Clottey's prediction? "I'm predicting a win," he said.

Clottey's trainer is Lenny De Jesus, who spent a few years as Pacquiao's cutman. Clottey went with him after his preferred trainer was denied a visa.

Something else missing from his preparation: film sessions, at least not any featuring Pacquiao.

"I don't like doing that," Clottey said. "I know his style, I know the way he moves, the way he throws punches, so it doesn't matter.

"I study myself," he added. "I watch my own fights. I know what I have to do."

As for Pacquiao's future, Arum laughed off any chance that his ace would walk away at the top of his career. He said he keeps hearing about it from Roach, but never from Pacquiao.

All Pacquiao said about it Wednesday was, "I don't know."

# Analysts: Rise in killings portent of RP's most violent election yet

**MANILA, Philippines** (Philippine Daily Inquirer)—A series of killings since the massacre of 57 people in Maguindanao province in November last year has set the stage for the country's most violent election in recent history, experts warn.

Politicians defying a government crackdown and running their own small armies are one of the key trends behind the political murders, according to independent monitors and officials trying to stem the bloodshed.

"There are just too many private armies, goons for hire and entrepreneurs of violence," said Rommel Banlaoi, executive director of the Philippine Institute for Peace, Violence and Terrorism Research.

"The government must urgently find ways to deter armed groups and ensure they are not used for election-related purposes," Banlaoi added.

Philippine National Police Director General Jesus Verzosa underlined the government concern over campaign violence when he flew to Cotabato City Thursday and urged politicians to eschew the use of force in pursuing their political ambitions.

"It's time for us to forget the violence that has marred the past elections," Verzosa said in Filipino.

## Fear of more killings

More than 90 people have already been killed in the run-up to the national elections in May, according to the institute.

This includes the 57 people who were killed last Nov. 23 in Maguindanao allegedly by followers of the Ampatuans, a Muslim clan then closely allied to President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo in order to wipe out a rival politician's challenge. More than 30 media workers caught in the middle of the political conflict were among those massacred.

**ELECTION VIOLENCE**

| Year | Killed | Wounded |
|---|---|---|
| 1992 | 49 | 85 |
| 1995 | 76 | 124 |
| 1998 | 45 | 127 |
| 2001 | 98 | 161 |
| 2004 | 148 | 261 |
| 2007 | 121 | 176 |
| **Total** | **537** | **934** |

***Sources:*** *Philippine National Police, Inquirer Archives/ Inquirer Research*

With the political tensions still to peak, Banlaoi said the Philippines was on track to surpass the 189 people killed in the last presidential election six years ago, which was regarded as the most violent in recent memory. [The Inquirer Archives list 148 dead in the 2004 elections.]

"Based on current pre-election trends we are monitoring, 2010 may see the most violent elections in recent history," Banlaoi said.

## People kill for power

Dante Jimenez, a member of a presidential commission created to dismantle private armies following the Maguindanao massacre, offered an equally gloomy scenario.

"There are really expectations that this will turn out to be a very bloody election," Jimenez said.

"People will kill each other because of interests involved. A politician's salary is not that big, but it's not easy to let go of influence and power and the huge business interests that come with it. That includes illegal activities."

## Love for guns

Jimenez said the commission knew of at least 117 so-called private armies being run by politicians across the country.

The Ampatuan clan accused of the Maguindanao massacre allegedly had about 100 members of its private army carry out those murders, with the victims part of a convoy of people traveling to the provincial capitol where the clan's rival was to file his certificate of candidacy for governor.

Analysts say the culture of political violence in the Philippines can be partly blamed on rampant gun ownership.

There are more than 1.2 million unlicensed firearms and 1.8 million registered ones, according to police estimates. This means there is an average of roughly one gun for every three Filipinos.

# 25 RP police charged with murder in shootout

**MANILA, Philippines** (AP)—Prosecutors have filed murder charges against 25 policemen who allegedly pumped 80 bullets into a van carrying a man and his 7-year-old daughter while chasing suspected robbers two years ago, officials said Friday.

Police officers in the Philippines are rarely convicted despite frequent complaints that they are quick on the trigger in a country where crime is rampant and guns easily available.

The Justice Department said it found probable cause to indict the 25 officers in the death of Alfonso de Vera, 53, and his daughter after witnesses testified that police indiscriminately fired at the van without determining who was inside.

The officers were chasing suspected bank robbers in a Manila residential area in December 2008 when they strafed de Vera's van with 80 bullets, the indictment said.

When de Vera left the vehicle with his fatally wounded daughter, the policemen followed and shot him in the head, the Justice Department said. The policemen have said the civilians were caught in the crossfire with the suspected robbers.

All 12 suspected robbers were also killed, along with a policeman and another civilian. The metropolitan Manila police chief at the time, Leopoldo Bataoil, described the shootout as the bloodiest in recent memory.

The independent Commission on Human Rights said in January that police not only displayed incompetence but also showed "blatant disregard for standard operating procedures, brazen police brutality and reckless disregard for human rights."

The National Police Commission concluded that the officers violated rules of engagement and failed to protect civilians.

# Ailing Filipino sailor rescued from vessel off Taiwan

By JEROME ANING
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

**MANILA, Philippines**—The Manila Economic and Cultural Office Thursday thanked the Taiwanese air force for helping in the rescue of a Filipino seaman who was feared to have suffered a heart attack on a Hong Kong-registered freighter that was plying the waters of southern Taiwan last month.

The MV *Harotamou* was in the waters off southern Taiwan when its second engineer, Rolet Formacil, 49, suddenly collapsed and complained of severe back pain and paralysis while carrying tools and implements.

The ship's captain, fearing Formacil had a heart attack, radioed Taiwan authorities for emergency medical assistance and the Taiwanese air force sent the Chiayi Airbase Seagull Rescue Team.

MECO resident representative Antonio Basilio, in a statement, said the rescue team performed a "daring" nighttime operation to airlift Formacil.

The seaman was brought to the Kaohsiung Veterans Hospital for treatment. He was diagnosed with a fractured back. He was discharged after his condition stabilized and was assisted by MECO in traveling back to the Philippines on March 2 for further medical treatment.

In his letter to Gen. Lei Yu-chi, commanding general of the Taiwan Air Force Command Headquarters, Basilio said the rescue team's timely response proved crucial.

"Your immediate response to send a helicopter to airlift Mr. Formacil from the vessel saved his life and prevented further damage to his back," Basilio wrote.

The vessel, which was travelling near the town of Hengchun in southern Taiwan, was en route from Nagoya, Japan to Singapore for bunkering when the incident took place.

# Arroyo declares state of calamity in Mindanao

AP

**CHANGE OF COMMAND**
Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, center, watches as outgoing Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Victo Ibrado, left, and incoming AFP Chief Lt. General Delfin Bangit shake hands during the Change of Command ceremony Wednesday, March 10, 2010 in suburban Quezon City north of Manila, Philippines. Critics cast doubts on the appointment of Lt. Gen. Bangit as the new AFP chief of his impartiality because of his closeness with Presaident Arroyo as former chief of the Presidential Security Group.

By TJ BURGONIO, JEFFREY M. TUPAS
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

**MANILA, Philippines**—Here's good news and bad news.

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo has declared a state of calamity in Mindanao, a move that will allow cities, towns and provinces on the island to release 5 percent of their budgets so they can quickly procure generators to address the acute power shortage.

The total amount can easily run into billions of pesos, a possible source of kickbacks for officials running in the May elections, especially because the procurement process is exempted from bidding.

In Cagayan de Oro City, Mayor Constantino Jaraula said "although there is a chance for abuse," people should "assume good faith" in the President.

The government was banking on Ms Arroyo to declare a state of calamity to help solve the worsening power problem on the island, which has been hit daily by rotating brownouts lasting 8-10 hours.

Secretary Ricardo Saludo, presidential spokesperson, Thursday said by phone that Ms Arroyo "has declared" a state of calamity in Mindanao.

Press secretary Crispulo Icban Jr. said Ms Arroyo signed the declaration on Wednesday.

Mindanao's internal revenue allotment amounted to P68.9 billion in 2009. The IRA is an LGU share of the national government's tax revenues and one of its sources of income.

## P5.5B for generators

Gary Olivar, deputy presidential spokesperson, said the calamity funds would be used to purchase generating sets that were initially estimated to cost P5.5 billion.

"The importation of gensets, maybe even power barges, which have much higher mega wattage will require calamity funds that will be mobilized by the declaration of a state of calamity," Olivar said.

The House committee on energy, chaired by Pampanga Rep. Juan Miguel Arroyo, a son of the President, has placed the national government's calamity fund at P10 billion.

At a public hearing at the Apo View Hotel in Davao City, the committee Thursday came up with a resolution urging Ms Arroyo to allocate P5.5 billion to address the power deficiency in Mindanao and to use the remaining P4.5 billion for the agriculture sector.

The fund will come from the budget of the Office of the President and from the calamity fund that will be available upon the declaration of a state of calamity by the President.

## Trip to Tawi-Tawi

The resolution was passed before Ms Arroyo declared a state of calamity.

Ms Arroyo flew to Tawi-Tawi to inspect the construction of three bridges, inauguration of a water supply improvement project, and then to Zamboanga del Norte to inspect a road project.

She was accompanied by Defense Secretary Norberto Gonzales and Secretary Jesus Dureza of the Mindanao Development Authority, who confirmed to reporters by text that she had approved the recommendation to declare a state of calamity on the island.

The government had backtracked on a move to declare an emergency in Mindanao and call for a special session after Congress leaders said it would be difficult to muster a quorum in the heat of the campaign season.

# RP's Sy, Tan land on Forbes list of world's billionaires

The families of mall magnate Henry Sy ranked 201st and tobacco king Lucio Tan 582nd on a list of the world's billionaires, which was topped by a frugal Mexican who prefers to use paper notebooks rather than the computers he sells.

Mexico's telco tycoon Carlos Slim, the world's richest man, jumped past Americans Bill Gates and Warren Buffett to become the first person from a developing nation to top the list, according to Forbes magazine. The list has long been dominated by Americans and Europeans.

The 70-year-old Slim amassed a $53.5 billion fortune.

The 2010 Forbes list has 1,011 billionaires.

## $4.2B for Sys

With their net worth swelling to $4.2 billion, the Sys were 201st on the list, up from 234th last year, when their net worth was at $2.7 billion.



Sy



Tan

The Sys are at the helm of the Philippines' largest mall chain SM, which has 36 malls nationwide, and Banco de Oro Unibank. SM Investment, the family's listed holding company, has expanded into gaming and is set to open a "Las Vegas-style casino complex" near Manila Bay this year.

Tan and his family slipped to 582nd this year, from 522nd last year, even as their net worth increased to $1.7 billion, from $1.4 billion in 2009.

Tan owns the Philippines' largest cigarette maker Fortune Tobacco, Asia Brewery and Philippine Airlines, as well as mines and banks. He also owns real estate in Hong Kong.

The Sys and the Tans were also the only Filipinos to make it to the 2009 and 2008 Forbes lists of the world's billionaires. In 2007, the family of Jaime Zobel de Ayala was ranked 349th with a net worth of $2.6 billion.

The list includes 97 fresh billionaires, 62 of them charging out of Asia, a region that saw booming stock markets and several large public offerings in the past year.

# Police official hurt in QC ambush

**MANILA, Philippines**—A police superintendent whose identification card was found in the car of murdered "jueteng" whistle-blower Wilfredo "Boy" Mayor last week was wounded in an ambush in Quezon City Wednesday afternoon.

Chief Insp. Benjamin Elenzano, Quezon City Police District homicide chief, said Supt. Napoleon Cauyan sustained gunshot wounds in both arms when two men on a motorcycle fired at his Nissan Navara pickup on Magalang corner Matipuno Streets in Quezon City at around 12:45 p.m.

The area is near the Land Transportation Office (LTO) main office on East Avenue.

Cauyan, who is assigned at the Philippine National Police Personnel Holding and Administration Unit in Camp Crame, was in the news last week when an identification card bearing his name was found in the bullet-riddled vehicle of Mayor.

But Elenzano refused to immediately link the attack on Cauyan to the whistle-blower's death.

"We are in the process of investigating and we are looking into all possible leads and motives," he said.

Last July, Cauyan led a raid on the LTO main office, resulting in the arrest of several employees said to be involved in the manufacture of fake license plates.

Based on witnesses' accounts, a man wearing a black T-shirt alighted from a red Mitsubishi Adventure. Using a high-powered firearm, he shot Cauyan as he was sitting in his pickup, shattering the windows on the driver's and passenger's side.

The gunman then boarded a motorcycle which also did not have license plates and drove away with another man.

Witnesses said Cauyan managed to drive his vehicle away from the spot where he was shot although he stopped after a few blocks to seek the help of bystanders who took him to the Armed Forces Medical Center.

At press time, he was reported to be in stable condition.

The police later recovered from Cauyan's vehicle an Armalite rifle, a cal. .45 pistol, ammunition, three cell phones, a wallet containing his driver's license and other personal belongings.

Joselito Lapus, a parking attendant who witnessed the shooting incident, said Cauyan was with a woman when he was ambushed. ***(Philippine Daily Inquirer)***

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SHOW BIZ, POLITICS MIX

# Kris-Noynoy show off and running

By GIL C. CABACUNGAN JR.
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

**MANILA, Philippines**—The Kris and Noynoy show is off and running as the presidential race tightened two months before the May elections.

With her husband and son in tow, Kris Aquino-Yap joined the presidential campaign on Wednesday of her brother, Sen. Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III, and voiced confidence she would get into the bandwagon her influential uncle, Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco.

Boosted by basketball superstar James Yap and son Baby James, some 80,000 people crammed the Joaquin Enriquez Sports Center in Zamboanga City, waiting all afternoon to see the TV celebrity and the standard-bearer of the Liberal Party.

"I've tried but it's really their decision," said Kris of a meeting with Cojuangco, chair of San Miguel Corp. and head of the National People's Coalition (NPC).

"Di ba makapal ang mukha ko?" she told reporters.

She added, "We do have a good relationship."

The TV star was in Iloilo Thursday with Cojuangco's daughter, Liza Cojuangco-Cruz, who has declared her support for Noynoy.

While administration presidential candidate Gilberto Teodoro Jr. is Liza's first cousin, Kris said, "They still chose Noynoy even though he's just a second cousin. I hope that she helps us in convincing her parents."

The NPC is not supporting any presidential candidate in May.

### 'I'm a tattler'

Kris admitted that her family was a bit concerned at the narrowing gap between Noynoy and Sen. Manny Villar, the Nacionalista Party standard-bearer.

Getting Cojuangco's political and financial support could be the key to Noynoy's victory.

But while Kris has been allowed to recruit financial backers for Noynoy, the deals are handled by her other sisters.

"You know, I'm a tattler, so there is no money passing through me and I have no knowledge of it. My brother is smart; he keeps me away from this stuff because he knows I can't tell a lie. So It's better that I don't know anything," said Kris.

She suggested that Malacañang be covered like her show biz-oriented talk shows "The Buzz" and "SNN" to ensure transparency "since no rumor or transaction will go unreported."

Aside from providing Noynoy's rallies with star power, Kris said that she was also taking an active role in his media ads as well as his public image.

Kris told her brother to have a botox treatment to improve his looks but Noynoy was "adamant about leaving his face alone."

"He told us that we were making him over to look like John Lloyd Cruz," she said.

Should Noynoy win, Kris said that she and her sisters would leave their brother alone and continue with their private lives outside the Palace.

She said she did not spend a single night in Malacañang when her mother, the late Corazon Aquino, was president. They stayed at the adjacent Arlegui Residence.

### Kids have own plans

"During that time, we lived together because of the coup d'etat. I'm just praying that if Noynoy wins, there would be no more coups so there won't be a need to give us security because we don't want to be an added burden to the government," said Kris.

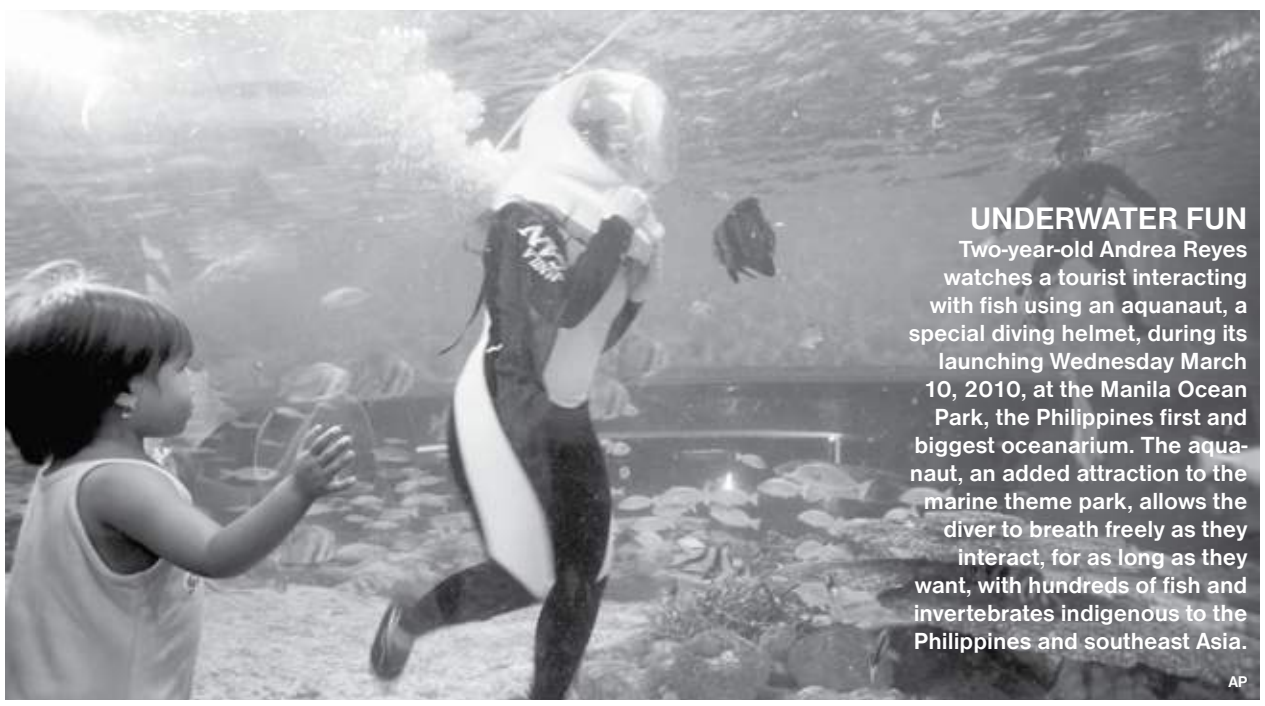
But her two children have their plans. "My two sons are 'feeling,' they told them they want to live with Tito Noy. Nagfe-feeling-an si Josh and Baby James. So I warned them I would leave them with him," said Kris in jest.

Kris said that her husband would continue to play professional basketball because at 29, he was still too young. Besides, she said her "babe" was set to get a juicy bonus and contract extension after he led his team to a championship last week.

She does not see herself taking up the duties of a First Lady if her brother wins. "It's up to him, he's 50 years old," she said, adding that she didn't want to fill that role "because we'll just fight."

She also said she did not give her brother unsolicited advice.

"Me giving him advice? He's the one telling me to relax because I'm the one hyper in the family. He always tells me that his favorite text is 'Kristina, relax.' If he wins, he will call the shots," said Kris.



**UNDERWATER FUN**
Two-year-old Andrea Reyes watches a tourist interacting with fish using an aquanaut, a special diving helmet, during its launching Wednesday March 10, 2010, at the Manila Ocean Park, the Philippines first and biggest oceanarium. The aquanaut, an added attraction to the marine theme park, allows the diver to breath freely as they interact, for as long as they want, with hundreds of fish and invertebrates indigenous to the Philippines and southeast Asia.
AP

# 55 pct. passport applicants via appointment

**MANILA, Philippines** (INQUIRER.net)—Fifty-five percent of some 4,000 people who apply for passport every day have availed of the appointment system at the new consular building since Monday, the Department of Foreign Affairs said Thursday.

The new system, which started full blast on March 8, allows applicants with complete supporting documents to finish the whole application process in 30 minutes.

The DFA has streamlined the application process and added service windows. (In the passport data-capturing section alone, service windows have been increased from 12 to 60.)

Passport applicants with appointments for that day are immediately ushered to the processing area to have their documents examined. They then proceed to the second floor to pay the passport fees.

After paying, applicants will go to the data-capturing section where their photo, thumb mark, and signature are taken in one of the 60 data-capturing windows. It takes only around six minutes to have their biometrics taken.

The DFA recently opened to the public the new consular building located in Bradco and Macapagal Avenues in Aseana Business Park, near the Mall of Asia. The new facility is the home of the ePassport, electronic authentication system, electronic visa system, and digitalized consular records system.

The DFA reminds passport applicants to avail of the appointment system to ensure quick and comfortable service. Applicants can check the passport requirements and secure an appointment by logging in at the website or calling hotline (02) 737-1000 which is open 24 hours. They may also call the DFA help lines at telephone numbers (02) 831-8971, (02) 551-4437, (02) 551-4402, (02) 834-4855 and (02) 834-4424, during office hours.

Applicants are no longer required to bring photographs since they will have their pictures taken using ePassport data-capturing machines.

There are also a total of 18 DFA Regional Consular Offices spread around the country providing consular services to Filipinos outside Metro Manila.

"Filipinos who reside in the provinces need not come to Manila to get a passport. They only have to go to the DFA regional office nearest to them and avail of the same fast and efficient services," Foreign Affairs Secretary Alberto Romulo said.

The 18 regional offices are located in Bacolod, Baguio, Batangas City, Butuan, Cagayan De Oro, Cebu City, Cotabato, Davao, General Santos City, Iloilo City, Legaspi, Lucena, Puerto Princesa, San Fernando in La Union, San Fernando in Pampanga, Tacloban, Tuguegarao, and Zamboanga.

TAKE CHARGE

# Save or pay off debt? What to do when money is tight

**Question: I work as a freelance graphic designer. There are months when I earn a lot, and times when I'm not. Since middle of last year, my income has gone down mainly because my existing clients were all affected by the typhoons, and decided to cut down on some projects. Sometimes I earn just enough to get by. I have some savings, but I am having second thoughts on whether to continue saving at this time. My credit card debt is piling up, and I am afraid it will even be bigger unless my income situation improves. Will it be a good move to stop saving and just pay off my debts? But this will bring my savings back to near zero.—Julie**

**Answer:** Working freelance gives you the opportunity to choose your projects and work at your own pace at your own time. The downside of this is that, as you have discovered, the income stream may not be steady. You don't have a fixed salary that you collect every 15th and 30th day of the month. You also don't know when you will be able to collect payments from your clients. However, the possibility of earning more than what you may earn as a full-time employee is there; you do not have set limits.

So there would be days when you have much work and much income, and less work and less income. For some people, they prefer this arrangement as it allows them to be their own boss. It's like going into business, which comes with risks.

It is good that you have built up some savings at this point. This will tide you over when you go through the lean months. However, with your debt piling up, it is indeed tempting to just pay off all your debts and start clean. After all, interest charges on unpaid balances can indeed be an added burden. But paying off all your debts now will also decrease your savings greatly or wipe it out altogether.

Should you hold off saving for now and just pay off your entire credit card debt? We say no.

The purpose of saving is to sustain you during the times when you really need extra funds. This may happen when you lose a job, go through a difficult time when death happens in the family, or when you finally decide to retire. You have seen how important savings is; now that your income is not steady, there is a pot of funds readily available. But if you wipe out all your credit card debt now with your savings, you may not have enough funds left should something happen to you tomorrow, the day after, next week, or even a year from now. You have to be ready for what may happen and not just rely on the thought that you can rack up new charges on your credit card.

How then can you deal with your situation? Here are our suggestions:

**1. Assess how much you exactly owe.** Write down the amounts you owe on your credit card, including finance charges and interest charges, if any.

2. Find out how much is the interest rate used by your credit card.

**3. Check with SSS or GSIS if you can get a loan for a much lower interest rate.** If so, take out a loan and use the proceeds to pay off your credit card debt in full. The monthly amortization of your loan payment to SSS or GSIS will be easier on your pocket as you may access low-interest loans from these institutions.

**4. In case you cannot get a loan from SSS or GSIS,** call your credit card company and ask if they can amortize your existing balance over the next few months at a lower interest rate. If you have been a loyal customer with a good paying record, they just might accommodate your request.

**5. Look for other ways to increase your income.** Search aggressively for potential clients, ask for referrals, and show off your portfolio. Partner with another business, such as a web developer, in offering your services to potential clients. And look for possible sidelines you can do also, such as teaching, to augment your income. Then use this additional income to pay off debt.

**6. Sell off an asset you have but don't use.** Maybe you have an extra computer that you don't really use much, or an antique table that just gathers dust in the corner. Turn that nonperforming asset into cash and use the proceeds to pay off your loan.

**7. Cut down on unnecessary spending.** If you like eating out, do it less frequently. When you're tempted to get gourmet cafe at a coffee shop, promise yourself you'll brew a good cup at home instead. Little things like this can help you free up more money for saving.

**8. Continue to save.** Set aside money for savings even before you spend the rest of your income for the month. This will be for your future. 9. Follow your budget. Experts recommend that debt repayment should be no more than one-third of your take-home pay so that you will have money left for your living expenses. Set a limit for your other expenses and live within your means.

By following the above suggestions, you will eventually find out that you have finally paid off your debt and still have built up some savings. Discipline is the key.

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# Maharlika – PinoyStyle

# Juday is pregnant—husband

By BAYANI SAN DIEGO JR.
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

**MANILA, Philippines**—Judy Ann Santos is pregnant, according to her jubilant husband Ryan Agoncillo who made the announcement Friday on GMA Network's noontime show "Eat Bulaga."

The actress is two months and four days pregnant, Agoncillo said, showing the ultrasound image of the baby to an ecstatic studio audience.

"Magiging tatay na ako [I will soon become a father], said Agoncillo after making the announcement.

In a short phone patch interview, Santos expressed elation over her condition and said it was something they had waited for.

Asked by the show's hosts whether she preferred a boy or girl, Santos said it wouldn't matter as long as the baby would be healthy.

Agoncillo added that what was also important was their adopted child Johann would have a sibling.

The couple had only waited for the results of the final ultrasound test, according to a source close to the actress but who was not authorized to talk to media.

In a previous interview, Santos told the Philippine Daily Inquirer that she was planning to "slow down" should she get pregnant.

She said that she had been undergoing a series of "workup treatments" to aid the pregnancy.

She noted that she would only continue the commitments she had begun like the ABS-CBN soap opera "Habang May Buhay" and the Unitel drama "Ikaw ang Pag-Ibig," which co-stars Agoncillo and directed by Marilou Diaz-Abaya.

The Agoncillos, who were married in ultra-secret ceremonies in April last year, are planning to fly to Europe next month for a much-delayed honeymoon.

## Two sexy stars, actor fail to post bail, face arrest

Two sexy actresses, and an actor-model, who were involved in the controversial 2009 bikini show in Bantayan island during Holy Week are still under threat of being arrested.

They failed to post bail on charges of violating the Revised Penal Code on indecent shows.

Maureen Anne Rodriguez, also known as Maui Taylor, Jennifer Lee, and Paolo Paraiso have not yet posted their bail of P24,000 each in court.

Regional Trial Court Judge Antonio Maringomen of Branch 61 of Bogo City issued arrest warrants two weeks ago against the three show business personalities, organizers and the beach resort owner.

The other respondents—beach resort owner Rommel Salomon, the show's organizer Eugene Tio, Mercury Gumera and Asuncion Floro—have already posted bail.

Rey Caayon, clerk of court of the Bogo City RTC Branch 61, said Gumera and Tio posted bail last Friday while Floro availed of temporary liberty yesterday.

Taylor, Lee, Paraiso and the other respondents faced a P12,000 fine and prison term it they are convicted of violating the law on indecent shows, which is defined as a show that serves no other purpose but to satisfy the market for violence, lust or pornography.

The case is separate from another case the respondents are facing at the Municipal Circuit Trial Court (MCTC) in Bantayan town for violating a Cebu provincial and municipal ordinance that prohibits activities that degrade the dignity of women.

Taylor, Lee and the other accused posted bail for the MCTC case in November last year.

The controversial bikini event happened from 8 p.m. of April 11 until dawn of April 12 – Black Saturday and Easter Sunday.

Cebu province and town officials criticized the show and had charges filed.

Last Feb. 18, Taylor and Lee issued a public apology to the Cebuanos for the show after a meeting with Gov. Gwen Garcia.

The Capitol, however, didn't withdraw the cases despite the apology. ***(Cebu Daily News)***

## Ruffa on row with Kris: Time to bury hatchet

By MARINEL CRUZ
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Controversial actress and TV host Ruffa Gutierrez, who reportedly walked out of gossip show "The Buzz" last week over a comment made by co-host Kris Aquino, said it's now time they bury the hatchet.

"Kris, wherever you are, you know I'm not mad at you. Minsan lang hurt ako, emotional ako. I'm sure you understand me because we've been friends for a long time," Ruffa told a group of entertainment writers during the Avon Fashion Penthouse event she hosted at the St. Francis Shangri-la Place in Mandaluyong City on Wednesday night.

"I don't want to hear anything about Team Ruffa or Team Kris, sana Team Friendship na lang," she said.

In one of the show's "P.O.V." segments last Sunday, Kris told Ruffa: "Aminin mo, ibang level ang saya dito." A teary-eyed Ruffa replied: "Well, I know. You don't have to rub it in, Kris. I'm sad na so sana 'wag mo namang dagdagan." The actress-TV host has signed up to join the newly reorganized TV5.

Ruffa said she and Kris, who issued an apology to Ruffa via SMS to various publications on Sunday night, have not had the time to personally talk just yet.

"What happened between Kris and I was really very petty. We are going to see each other again. Very happy na kami. We can go back to working peacefully again. I just want to be very positive and move on," said Ruffa.

"I don't hold any grudges. When people—I'm not referring to Kris—do me wrong, I always forgive just as long as they know what they did, as long as they don't do it again and again. If you're bitter about people, magre-reflect sa'yo. You will only get wrinkles. It's always better to be positive and happy."

Controversial actress and TV host Ruffa Gutierrez

Ruffa added: "In the past, I've encountered a lot of people who say bad things about me and my family. They now reach out and say positive things—just like [Inquirer Entertainment columnist] Dolly Anne Carvajal, whom I've had a misunderstanding three years ago. I've read her columns. She's been fair."

Ruffa chose to keep mum if she would appear on "The Buzz" for the last time on Sunday.

"Although I'd be out of town with the kids this Sunday, a lot of things can still happen. Let's just wait and see," she said. "All I really want is a graceful exit. I've already asked permission from my ABS-CBN bosses (about my decision to leave the show)."

Ruffa also said she is expecting her estranged husband, Turkish businessman Yilmaz Bektas, to arrive later this month.

"We'll probably spend time in the beach. He said all he just wants to do is to read story books to the kids under a coconut tree. I'll give that to him. The girls (Lorin, 6, and Venice, 5) also miss their dad. I want to be able to show them that even though Yilmaz and I are having problems, we still respect each other," said Ruffa, adding that she has not spoken with Yilmaz for the past nine months.

"There were moments [with Yilmaz] that were sad. But we also had a lot of good times together. I want to cherish those moments. I hope to have a peaceful relationship with him," she said.

## 'Red Shoes' perfect fit for Marvin

By DOLLY ANNE CARVAJAL
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

**MANILA, Philipines**—Marvin Agustin is more than proud of "The Red Shoes," the film starring him and Nikki Gil which opens today. Too bad I was absent at the Cinema Evaluation Board Screening of the film, but my CEB "classmates" gave it rave reviews and an "A" rating. They told me that it's not your typical Pinoy movie. I can't wait to watch it myself.

What makes it a different kind of love story? "It speaks of love on many levels," says Marvin. "Like a widow's love for her husband, love for material things and my character's search for true love—taking care of it, betraying it, asking for forgiveness, letting go and moving on."

In what way did the movie change Marvin's definition of love? "It taught me various kinds of love. I learned a lot from my portrayal of Lucas, a poor boy who fell in love with a rich girl. It made me realize that true love really conquers all. The movie teaches us that life is a journey where we will love, get hurt, heal, learn, evolve and travel on."

What's his fave line in the movie? "The quote from Jose Rizal to throw both shoes para pakinabangan. We should look out for others and send a loved one on a journey with both shoes on."

■■■

Coco Martin was spotted hanging out with chef Rosebud Benitez (of QTV's "Quickfire") and some friends at Reserve. I teased Rosebud about it. "We were just introduced there by our common friends who own the bar. We were in one big table," she explained.

Isn't Coco her type? "He's a cutie but he's too young (laughs)."

■■■

The Facebook status of one of my close showbiz friends caught my attention. It read: "Gerald Anderson and Kim Chui's billboard endorsing a watch brand proclaiming they are proud to be Pinoy made me wonder if they are true-blue Pinoys. Isn't Gerald's dad an American and doesn't Kim have Chinese blood?"

■■■

Kris Aquino made a public apology to Ruffa Gutierrez for her tactless remarks that made Ruffa walk out of "The Buzz" last Sunday. An industry insider who knows Kris too well wonders if she apologized sincerely. Or is it just damage control since her brother Noynoy has been dragged into the controversy by Ruffa's mom, Tita Anabelle Rama?

Marvin Agustin

But that's part of Kris' charm. Love her or hate her, she just can't be ignored.

■■■

If there's one thing Kris hates, it is being upstaged. Ruffa's towering presence and queenly bearing does exactly that even if it's not her intention to steal the limelight from Kris. It would be interesting to watch when Gretchen Barretto joins "The Buzz."

As my gay colleague puts it, "'Di magpapatalbog si Greta kay Kris at si Kris kay Greta. Pabonggahan sila ng outfits at jewelry."

■■■

### Overheard

Ruffa Gutierrez, on mom Annabelle's managerial skills: "We're in all three networks—Richard and Raymond in GMA 7, me in TV5, and my daughters in ABS-CBN."

■■■

I'm not a bit surprised that Maja Salvador would question an item in this column about her and the friend of Roxanne Guinoo's fiancé locking themselves up in a car. It's every celebrity's prerogative to cover up, for image preservation.

Dingdong Dantes

Perhaps she thought nobody would squeal on them. But someone privy to her affairs tipped me off about it.

Nothing wrong with enjoying the naughty pleasures of youth. She's a fancy-free, gorgeous young lady, who ought to have fun once in a while. All work and no play...

■■■

Marian Rivera and Dingdong Dantes were spotted shopping for appliances in Rockwell where they are rumored to have a love nest. I teased Dong about it. He told me they were just looking for a gift for their friend. Or were they secretly savoring the thrill of playing bahay-bahayan?

■■■

It was a toss-up between Dingdong Dantes and Richard Gutierrez for the next host of "Survivor Philippines." Richard is it, as announced on Friday, although Dong actually hinted to us earlier that he wasn't about to take over the hosting chores left behind by Paolo Bediones in the reality show.

# Maharlika – Opinyon

## Who will be the evil genius?

**MANILA, Philippines**—In another election non-event forum on Monday, six of the seven presidential candidates present expressed their common concern over a failed election due to mechanical difficulties in the automation of the experimental voting system.

Their anxieties were fueled by uncertainties over the preparations of the Commission on Elections to install the automated apparatus by May 10, election day, and overshadowed their individual differences over political issues and platforms. The six were: Gilbert Teodoro Jr., the administration's candidate, Senators Benigno Aquino III, Jamby Madrigal and Richard Gordon, Nicanor Perlas, and Bro. Eddie Villanueva. This time, they were joined in a chorus on the theme of failed election. If there was no bashing of Sen. Manuel Villar, as some of them pilloried him at the Inquirer-sponsored forum at the University of the Philippines, it was because Villar did not attend. Former President Joseph Estrada, who was also invited, also did not attend the forum. Estrada has developed the habit of non-appearance in public debates, but the public may have lost nothing in his absence in terms of enlightenment.

Teodoro, hand-picked by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo as the standard-bearer of the behemoth party coalition (Lakas-CMD-Kampi) distanced himself further from the President's stigmatic embrace by not talking this time about her legacy in economic and infrastructure achievements. He highlighted an issue that would not embarrass him and would compromise his effort to improve his ratings in the surveys. The President did him a favor by shying away from the launch of his campaign.

At the forum, Teodoro singled out the "big logistical difficulties" in undertaking the computerization nationwide of the election count, saying, "The integrity of the elections is vital… automation is fine but the way it is implemented, I would have my doubts." He noted that the last batch of computerized counting machines would be delivered only in the last week of February, and then the teachers would only have one training session in March.

Gordon was more confident that the Comelec could put the system in place. "I cannot see a situation where it will fail because that will create anarchy in the country," he said. "I don't think the government can stand a failure of election."

Gordon had better make sure this contingency does not happen, because if honest election fails, either due to mechanical "glitches" or to manipulation of the machines, this government, as well as Gordon himself and the other presidential candidates, will never survive the insurrection over a stolen election. Edsa would then look like a picnic. If this happened, we better be ready to say goodbye to elections.

Perlas, representing civil society do-gooders, warned that "there is strong possibility of an electronic Garci." He was referring to the tampering of the 2004 election results in Mindanao by Election Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano, as revealed in a taped conversation with President Arroyo. The President admitted it was her voice that was heard on the phone, but denied she instructed Garciliano to cheat to let her win. Although there was no evidence to prove that the balloting was tampered with, her intervention triggered widespread demands for her resignation, a number of military coup attempts and Cabinet resignations. It also cast a dark cloud on the legitimacy of her government from 2005, and this question of legitimacy hounded her presidency relentlessly.

Perlas issued the warning of a repeat of the Garci scenario, saying that the "probability is increasing every day" for cheating facilitated by electronic devices. He said, "What will happen is that there may be an election but there will be failure of election." To avert such a failure, he said there was a need for a manual count fall back option, parallel to the electronic count system—a proposal supported by Madrigal and many others.

**Analysis**
By AMANDO DORONILA
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

The flaw in the "electronic Garci" argument is that it does not say who would be the person directing behind the scenes the mass cheating in 2010. In 2004, it was President Arroyo from whom Garcillano allegedly took instructions. Who will be the Garci this time to receive the orders?

The clear beneficiary of the 2004 election was Ms Arroyo, who was seeking a second term, as an elected president. She is running for Congress in a safe electorate, the second district of Pampanga, where she is expected to win hands down.

There's no compelling need to steal the elections by rigging the entire national counting machinery of the Comelec. No one among Aquino, Villar, Estrada, Madrigal, Gordon, Teodoro, Bro. Villanueva, Perlas, and De los Reyes is in a position of authority to have access to the Comelec's facilities in order to rig the balloting. Comelec Chair Jose Melo will have no part in this scheme, and will not follow them. Who will benefit from the rigging? Not Teodoro.

None of the above would like to be a president whose legitimacy is compromised by election cheating. The problem with the second Garci scenario is that there is no villain at the center of the plot or a puppet master. The central figure behind the scenes—the evil genius, or the unseen hand in 2010—remains unidentified. What happened in 2004 cannot be replicated in 2010. Perlas cannot reinvent the central cast of 2004. They are unique in our electoral history.

## EDITORIAL

### The last 'rigodon'?

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo has appointed old hands to the new Cabinet and sub-Cabinet vacancies. With less than four months left in her term, this is the approach that best guarantees continuity in policy and best prepares the agencies of the executive branch for a transition. The bad news is, some of the old hands do not strike us as transitional figures at all.

It is a step down from his previous post as trade and industry secretary, but Peter Favila's appointment to the policy-making Monetary Board seems a sensible choice. The promotion of undersecretaries Bernie Fondevilla and Joaquin Lagonera to the helm of the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Budget and Management, respectively, is also welcome. Indeed, Lagonera's appointment soothes the anxiety of those who believed early reports that the President was going to name herself budget secretary, which would have certainly inflamed political passions.

But we note with concern that Undersecretary Gary Olivar remains a deputy spokesman of the President's. Since his dual citizenship became public, Olivar should have had the strength of character and the sense of honor to resign, gracefully, from public service. (Or to have renounced his second citizenship.) Indeed, it was incumbent on the administration to force Olivar's exit; instead, we have a continuing reminder that, where it thinks it can get away with a crime, the Arroyo administration can be counted upon to violate the law with blithe contempt.

Above all, we note that the President has promoted Leandro Mendoza to executive secretary. While Mendoza is a decent man, pleasant and congenial to everyone, he also burdens the office of executive secretary with the weight of his military background and his blind loyalty to President Arroyo. The true weight of that loyalty can be measured in his pleasant, congenial stonewalling of the Senate in the NBN-ZTE case.

A member of the President's inner circle, Mendoza, by assuming the pivotal post of "Little President," reminds the public of the cliquish, non-transparent, even secretive, nature of this administration: its successful attempts to head off impeachment complaints in the House of Representatives, its calibrated response to empty the streets of protesters, its scandalous refusal to be held accountable through its abuse of executive privilege.

A police general when the President assumed office in 2001, Mendoza, by assuming the pivotal post of "Little President," reminds the public of the unusual number of ex-generals in the official family. (In point of fact, Mendoza succeeds another graduate of the Philippine Military Academy, Eduardo Ermita.)

To be sure, Mendoza has told reporters that Malacañang is keen on "providing a very orderly transition from this administration to the next." Like Olivar, however, he hardly seems like the transitional figure this time of transition needs.

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## The temptation of Saint Anthony

While everyone knows Fort Santiago and its long history, very few know about Fort San Antonio Abad, which lies hidden between the Metropolitan Museum of Manila on Roxas Boulevard and the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas on Harrison Street. While the Fort has been preserved and is open to the public, it remains one of Manila's little secrets. It is the venue for the annual bankers' cocktails hosted by the governor of the Central Bank, but few know about the part it played in our history.

Even fewer people know who San Antonio Abad is and what he did to deserve sainthood. Many of my students confuse this hermit with the Franciscan saint of the same name, San Antonio de Padua, whom you invoke when you lose something. In art, San Antonio Abad is depicted as an old man with a flowing beard, usually wearing a black cape and cowl, and at his feet is a pig with a bell tied around its neck.

**Looking Back**
By AMBETH OCAMPO
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

San Antonio Abad used to be invoked by those who wanted to resist sexual temptation. Legend says he fled the world and hid in a cave to find God in solitude. In time the devil came to tempt him out of holiness and the cave by appearing in the guise of a beautiful naked woman while the saint was cooking dinner. When the devil started to dance seductively, San Antonio grabbed a flaming branch from the fire and drove the devil out. He was never tempted that way again, though I wonder if the devil should have tried other disguises, other forms.

Now that the Catholic Church and the Department of Health have locked horns over the use of condoms, perhaps it is time to revive the cult of San Antonio Abad. The Church is opposed to condoms because they promote sexual activity out of marriage and are a barrier to reproduction. The DoH encourages the use of condoms to stem the AIDS epidemic. One argues on the level of spirit and morals, the other on health and the body.

The forgotten ruins of Fort San Antonio Abad reminds us of the day the United States intruded into our land and history. The Fort was bombarded by the US Naval Squadron on Manila Bay under Adm. George Dewey on Aug. 13, 1898, leading to the surrender of the Spanish officials and military holed up in Intramuros. After Dewey destroyed the Spanish fleet in the Battle of Manila Bay on May 1, 1898, the party was not yet over because he did not have enough troops to take the city. He controlled Manila Bay but not Spanish Manila and its environs.

This was why Emilio Aguinaldo was brought home from exile in Hong Kong on board a US ship to renew the war against Spain and keep the enemy occupied. By Aug. 13, 1898, Aguinaldo's troops had surrounded Intramuros and cut off its food and water supply. It was only a matter of time before the Spaniards surrendered, but they did not want to deliver the city to the Filipinos so they made a deal with the Americans. To save their honor, Dewey would bomb Fort San Antonio Abad, which was far from Intramuros, then after controlled death and destruction Spanish Manila would be surrendered to the Americans.

At the time, Aguinaldo was led to believe that the Americans were his friends, allies who wanted to help him gain the freedom of his country. He was to be sorely disappointed.

Even if Aguinaldo was politically naïve, there were others who advised him to take action, but this advice went unheeded, and has now become a tragic what-if in our history.

On the morning of Aug. 8, 1898 a certain Fernando Acevedo sent an urgent letter to Gen. Pio del Pilar requesting that Aguinaldo be informed that:

"The Americans will bombard Manila tomorrow, they say they will attack; now see what the revolution has done. You are the ones who have done the fighting and they are the ones who will carry off the victory. When they take Manila and the entire Philippines, all of us here will become their slaves. Remember this well. They will not give way to Filipinos, because the Americans are very bad. Pity! Pity! For all your struggles as well as mine. Woe to our country, just at the moment when we might receive liberty, if we but ask for self-government!"

The original letter should be in the Philippine Revolutionary Papers in the National Library. I am only quoting from an English translation by a biased military historian, J.R.M Taylor, who probably edited out important parts of the letter. Or perhaps the original sentiment is lost in translation. Acevedo argued that both Spain and the US would not recognize the First Philippine Republic and provided a solution that went unheeded:

"If we love this land where we were born, we should not help the Americans on the day they attack Manila. It is requisite and necessary before their attack takes place that you annihilate them, sparing none for the way they have deceived us and will again without fail. Convince yourself, my friend, that it is necessary to do this, and when it is done the whole world will wonder and say that we have done well. They will not be able to say that the people here are fools spending their time sucking their fingers. You already know if this succeeds, as I trust it will, it will be for the good of us all."

The late Teodoro Agoncillo chided me for wasting my time on what-ifs in history when the need to ascertain what really happened was more important. Somehow, what did not happen is often more engaging than what did.

■■■

Comments are welcome at aocampo@ateneo.edu

# Samu't Sari

## STATE FUNERAL

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Families and friends lay flowers on the casket of the late Francisco C. Ada, the CNMI's first lieutenant governor, during his burial on Wednesday at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Robert H. Jones, left, president and chief executive officer of Triple J Enterprises Inc., and his family, bid farewell to the late Francisco C. Ada, the CNMI's first lieutenant governor and who also became vice president and general manager of Triple J, during Ada's state funeral at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe on Wednesday. Jones delivered a eulogy during the state funeral.

Daughters of the late Francisco C. Ada, the CNMI's first lieutenant governor, carry their father's casket right after a Mass at the Mount Carmel Cathedral on Wednesday, before police officers took over and carried the casket from the church to the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery for his burial.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

**HOUSE SESSION**

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Parents and school administrators listen to a speaker during a session of the House of Representatives on Thursday when lawmakers "filed" the committee report on the controversial austerity bill, effectively killing the measure.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

School administrators, parents and representatives from government agencies wait for their turn to speak up on the austerity bill during Thursday's session of the House of Representatives.

## MONUMENT PROPONENTS

Friends of the Mariana Trench Monument director Angelo Villagomez and vice chair Agnes McPhetres pose in front of the White House in Washington D.C. after testifying in Congress in support of creating a headquarters for the Mariana Trench Marine National Monument in the CNMI. The Friends is campaigning for a visitors center and headquarters to be built in the CNMI and has waged a letter writing campaign urging the Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans, and Wildlife to support H.R. 3511, the "Marianas Trench Marine National Monument Visitor Facility Authorization Act of 2009."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## DELEGATE BET

Above, from left, Covenant Party chairman Gregorio Camacho, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, Viola Alepuyo and her husband, Covenant Party's candidate for CNMI delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives Joseph N. Camacho, Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, and Felix R. Nogis, chairman of the Committee to Elect Camacho, right after the party endorsed Camacho, at the governor's private residence in Gualo Rai on Thursday.

## VISITING MEDIA

From left, Japan media cameraman Yuichiro Higuchi, editor Maho Someya, model Tomoko Suzuki and manager Seiji Endo catch their breath and pause for a commemorative photo at the Saipan Marathon on March 6, 2010, in the Northern Mariana Islands.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

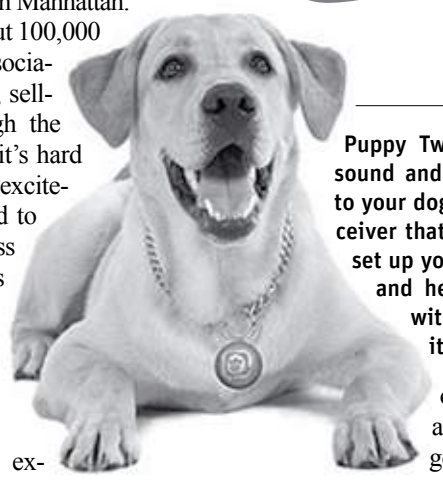
# Best new toys unveiled at toy fair

**NEW YORK**—Imagine a stadium-sized toy pit. Now add a marching band of clowns, storybook characters brought to life and an enormous inflatable Big Foot.

By AISHA SULTAN
ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

That's the scene that welcomed visitors last week at the American International Toy Fair at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center in Manhattan.

Toy makers displayed about 100,000 toys at the Toy Industry Association's trade show for buyers, sellers and media. Even though the show is just for grown-ups, it's hard to suppress that little-kid excitement. In the few hours I had to canvass the aisles, I saw a cross section of innovative gadgets that made me wish I could stick around and play. Here are my picks of the ones that could be holiday hits and the ones you may want to avoid.



Puppy Tweets is a plastic tag with a sound and motion sensor that attaches to your dog's collar along with a USB receiver that connects to a computer. You set up your dog's own Twitter account, and he "tweets" messages all day with updates specific to his activity at the moment.

Most new products are expected on shelves later this year, although prices may be subject to change.

Mattel is launching Puppy Tweets, which combines Twitter's popularity with pet-owners' love for their dogs.

Puppy Tweets is a plastic tag with a sound and motion sensor that attaches to your dog's collar along with a USB receiver that connects to a computer. You set up your dog's own Twitter account, and he "tweets" messages all day with updates specific to his activity at the moment. The tag comes with 500 pre-recorded tweets, and another 500 that can be downloaded, that are triggered by the dog's activities.

Here are some of the flotsam from your dog's life he may share with the Twitterverse: "I finally caught that tail I've been chasing and... OOUUUCHH!" During naptime: "Somedays it feels like my paw is permanently on the snooze button!" Or while barking and annoying the neighbors: "YAHOOOOOOOO! Somedays you just gotta get your bark on."

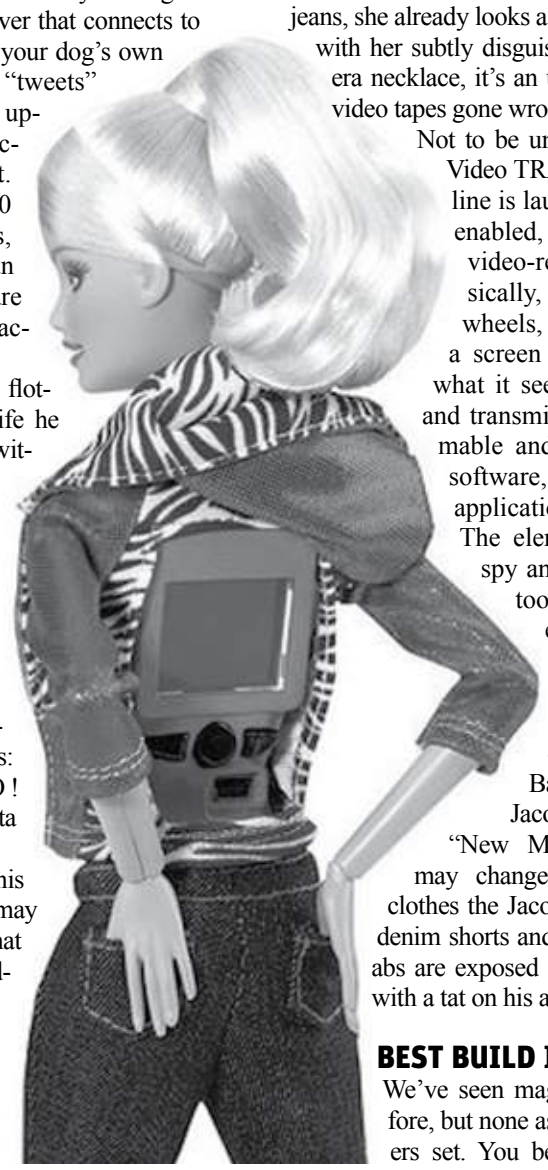
Your dog can have his own followers and may even decide to follow that spit-fire poodle at Grandma's house. $29.99

## FOR BARBIE COLLECTORS

Check out the hot Christian Louboutin Barbie in her sexy, fringed, thigh-high pink boots, along with the Ladies of the '80s line featuring Cyndi Lauper, Joan Jett and Debbie Harry.

## HI-TECH CREEPY

Often, I'm amazed by the high-tech capabilities of today's toys. But, once in a while, an idea that sounds good in theory ends up feeling creepy in real life. Take for instance, Video Girl Barbie, complete with a video camera built into her chest and a small LCD in back. Up to 27 minutes of footage can be shot with this doll, then downloaded and edited with barbie.com software.



Barbie Video Girl. Up to 27 minutes of footage can be shot with this doll, then downloaded and edited with barbie.com software.

With Barbie's shiny hot pink bodysuit and tight jeans, she already looks a bit like Paris Hilton and with her subtly disguised, built-in video camera necklace, it's an unfortunate reminder of video tapes gone wrong. Ew. $50.

Not to be undone, Wild Planet Spy Video TRAKR from the SpyGear line is launching an application-enabled, remote-controlled, video-recording vehicle. Basically, it's a video camera on wheels, with a remote that has a screen on it so you can see what it sees. It also can pick up and transmit audio. It is programmable and runs on open-source software, so kids can download applications for their robots. The element of being able to spy and record seems a little too Peeping Tom and voyeuristic. $119.99.

## TWEEN HIT

Has your tween-aged daughter outgrown her Barbies? This shirtless Jacob doll, pegged to the "New Moon" Twilight movie, may change her mind. The only clothes the Jacob doll wears are ripped denim shorts and sneakers. His six-pack abs are exposed and well-defined, along with a tat on his arm. $24.99.

## BEST BUILD IT

We've seen magnetic building sets before, but none as cool as the Mag Formers set. You begin by connecting the magnetically charged squares, triangles and other shapes next to one another on a flat surface, then lift the creation up and it creates a 3-D sphere, house or rocket. The 30-piece set is made so the magnetic pieces always connect. Besides the fun of arranging and rearranging these pieces, we suspect there are some sneaky geometry principles being learned. $34.99

## MOST OVEREXPOSED LICENSING

The toy industry's favorite movie is coming out with its third sequel, and there was plenty of "Toy Story" love at the fair.

Expect to see ubiquitous licensing movie tie-ins from every major toy maker, and even the not-so-obvious ones, like the Toy Story Slinky Dog Koosh ball. The Disney-Pixar movie is set to be released in June, but the toy merchandise already feels like it goes to infinity and beyond.

Creationary is a twist on the traditional Pictionary game. $29.99 from LEGO.

## MOST CREATIVE

For the first time, LEGO is entering the board game aisle. Its innovative games allow players to build the game board before playing. My favorite was Creationary, a twist on the traditional Pictionary game. In this version, you have to construct the object that your teammates must guess. There are four building categories—vehicles, buildings, nature or things—and three levels of difficulty. If it was fun to laugh at your spouse's drawing skills, imagine how amusing it will be to watch him "build" a sofa. $29.99.

Elmer's MythBusters science kits, based on the Discovery Channel's myth debunking show, appeal to kids' natural curiosity.

## BEST FAMILY BONDING

Pizza night usually means sitting around the television watching a movie or TV show with the kids. But this boxed activity, Pizza Night Family Dinner Game, has 150 funny questions and games families can play together to spice up pizza night. It's simple enough for a 5-year-old, and the questions are amusing enough to entertain tween-aged kids. It's a good way to get your family talking. $19.99.

## MOST USEFUL

Traveling with little ones just got a bit easier with Melissa and Doug's Trunki, a hard-shell animal-shaped suitcase on wheels that kids can ride. Seriously, it supports up to 200 pounds. If you've got more than one pint-sized traveler, they link up and can be pulled as one. With the bright colors and sleek styling, this is luggage your children will love to tote and ride. Now, if only they made one in my size. $49.95

## LITTLE ONES WILL WANT

Small children can spend hours in a play kitchen, but those oversized play sets can take over too much living space in a small room. The KidKraft Pink Small Kitchen is a best-seller in Europe, where home space is at a premium. Even though it's pint-sized, the well-designed, modern kitchen has all the essential for pretend play.

Another favorite, the Fun Explorers Pirate Ship Activity set, is visually appealing and engaging. Either of these big-ticket items would be a hit during the holidays with preschoolers. Pink Small Kitchen $99. Pirate Ship $149.

Gelli Baff turns bathwater into goo, which can be dissolved with a sprinkle of its "dissolver packet."

## COOL CRAFT MAKER

The Alex-Panline Foil Bead Maker takes sheets of shiny, colorful foil and turns them into beautiful beads that can be strung into jewelry. The kit includes Foil Bead Maker Machine, three bead molds, bead rolling guide, 72 sheets of foil in four colors, four earring hooks, elastic cord, five satin cords and a beading needle. When I showed pictures of the beads to one of our newsroom crafters, her eyes lit up. $21.99.

## FOR THE SMARTIES

Truth be told, most "educational" toys are too overtly educational. They end up seeming more like work than play. But these Elmer's MythBusters science kits, based on the Discovery Channel's myth debunking show, appeal to kids' natural curiosity. The newest sports-themed one will have children investigate questions like why some football players paint black marks under their eyes. $19.95.

## HIGHEST ICK FACTOR

Do we really need a powder that turns our kids' bath water into thick, gloopy slime? Gelicity Skin Technology markets its Gelli Baff products as taking a bath in goo, which can be dissolved with a sprinkle of its "dissolver packet" when your child has had enough splashing around in muck. Granted, this may lure some reluctant bath-takers to the tub, but instructions that warn them not to eat the gunk they're "bathing" in is simply too stomach-turning for most adults. It is sold through gellibaff.com.au and other online stores. $14.95.

## NIFTIEST CARRYING CASE

Mattel's new Hot Wheels Stealth Rides car fits in a credit card-sized carrying case, which doubles as the car's remote control. A push of a button pops the flattened car into its regular shape, which can be raced for 30 minutes on a single charge. This one is going to appeal to boys of all ages (even the man-sized ones). $24.99.

MCT

Mattel's new Hot Wheels Stealth Rides car fits in a credit card-sized carrying case, which doubles as the car's remote control.

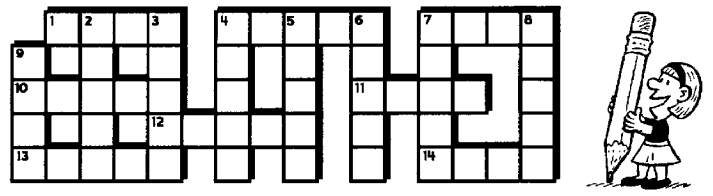
**CAN YOU SPOT THE TWO YO-YOS** that are exactly the same?

Answer: Yo-yos 5 and 12.

# Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

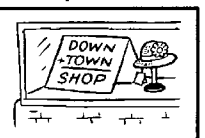
## A FILL-IN PUZZLE





Illustrated by David Coulson

**PUZZLE TILL YOU DROP!** Try solving this AlphaMath puzzle in less than five minutes. You must replace the letters to the right with the digits 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 9, so that you have a correct addition problem. The same letters get the same digits.




Our answer: D=5, O=8, W=4, N=1, T=3, S=9, H=6, P=2. (5841 + 3841 = 9682).

**SOLVE BEFORE THE BUS ARRIVES!** Pictured below are two puzzle grids for you to fill in. Hints are given for each word. The words in Grid A contain the same letters as the corresponding words in grid B.

1. Cut diamond shape.
2. To speak harshly.
3. Urgent, desperate need.
4. A flow of water.

GRID A

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| P | | | |
| | A | | |
| | | R | |
| | | | K |

GRID B

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| R | | | |
| | I | | |
| | | D | |
| | | | E |

1. Harvest time activity.
2. Foreign currency.
3. Amusement park feature.
4. A scenic pond.

Answers: 1. Pear-reap. 2. Rail-lira. 3. Dire-ride. 4. Leak-lake.

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Pictured above is a crossword puzzle grid. Below are the 16 words that you'll need to complete the puzzle using the trial-and-error method. Keep an eraser handy!

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| AMUSE | FEIGN | NOOKS |
| BRAD | FLASH | OLDER |
| CALM | FLEA | PAIR |
| CHEAP | HAFTS | RADIO |
| CORN | MAYOR | TOGAS |
| DARTS | | |

Answers: (Across) 1. Brad. 4. Flash. 7. Calm. 9. Corn. 5. Amuse. 6. Hafts. 7. Cheap. 8. Mayor. 14. Pair. (Down) 2. Radio. 3. Darts. 4. Feign. 10. Older. 11. Flea. 12. Togas. 13. Nooks.

# Strange BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

■ It was 18th-century French author and philosopher François-Marie Arouet, better known as Voltaire, who made the following sage observation: "It is forbidden to kill; therefore, all murderers are punished unless they kill in large numbers and to the sound of trumpets."

■ It took between 75,000 and 80,000 workers to build the Panama Canal, linking the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans across the Isthmus of Panama.

■ Pop star Prince may be best known for his hit "1999." After playing the song at a New Year's Eve party in 1999, he vowed he would never perform it again. Seven years later, however, unable to escape its perennial popularity, he started including the song in his performances once again.

■ Pope Benedict IX held the office three different times.

■ When the Barbie doll was first introduced in 1959, it was described in The New York Times as a "crushing bomb." So much for early reviews. Since then, more than a billion Barbies have been sold in more than 150 countries. Mattel, the doll's maker, claims that three Barbies are sold every second.

■ It was Britain's Prince Albert who originated the boutonniere. It seems that while they were courting, Queen Victoria offered a small bouquet of flowers to her future husband. Prince Albert used his pocketknife to cut a hole in the lapel of his jacket and put the stems of the bouquet through it.

■ A form of air conditioning existed as far back as ancient Rome. Wealthy citizens had piping installed in the walls of their homes through which water from an aqueduct would circulate, cooling the interior.

■ ■ ■

Thought for the Day: "If you watch a game, it's fun. If you play at it, it's recreation. If you work at it, it's golf."—Bob Hope

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## MAGIC MAZE ● COLLEGE DROPOUTS

L J R Q N K H E B Y W T R O L
J G O Y E B Y W U R P N K I G
D N B B T B Z X V S Q O R M K
I G E A S T W O O D E E C A D
Y W R L U S E Q K P T T N Y L
J H T F L E H G C A D U O A Y
X V F U N A L S W Q I R P N M
I R R K N L L D J H K N O F E
M O O K E C L U B Y Z E Z F Y
U V S D L O X V A U T R R O H
S E T A G L L I B P Q P O M W

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Aykroyd | Glenn | Imus | Rove |
| Bill Gates | Goldwater | Jobs | Turner |
| Dell | H. Ford | Paul Allen | Wozniak |
| Eastwood | Hanks | Robert Frost | |

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## GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

**DIFFICULTY: ★★★**

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | x | | + | | 23 |
| – | | + | | x | |
| | x | | + | | 15 |
| x | | + | | + | |
| | x | | + | | 20 |
| 4 | | 24 | | 16 | |

1 2 2 3 4 6 7 8 9

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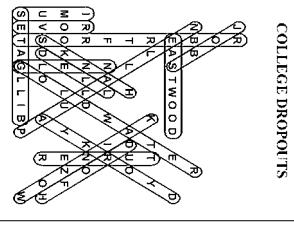
**MAGIC MAZE ANSWER**




**GO FIGURE ANSWER**

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | x | 7 | + | 2 | 23 |
| 1 | x | 9 | + | 6 | 15 |
| – | | + | | x | |
| 2 | x | 8 | + | 4 | 20 |
| x | | + | | 24 | |
| 4 | | 16 | | | |

# Pets and allergies

**DEAR PAW'S CORNER: Is it possible for a dog to have allergies, like hay fever? My 1-year-old mutt, "Caleb," is scratching a lot and sneezing.—Janine in Madison, Wisc.**

DEAR JANINE: Dogs can develop allergies to different things, just like people can. Dust, pollen and other allergens might set off a sneezing or itching reaction in pets. Dogs also can have negative reactions to food and medicines.

You should note, however, that symptoms like hives, itching, vomiting and so on also can be indicators of an illness in pets, not allergies. If Caleb ingested a plant that he's not supposed to, or ate food that's not safe for dogs (like chocolate or onions), he could exhibit all sorts of strange symptoms.

Another possibility is fleas, which not only make a pet itch like mad but can cause hives, sneezing and allergy-like reactions. As the weather gets warmer, flea infestation—even in dogs that haven't had it before—can become a distinct possibility.

It's important to take Caleb to the veterinarian to rule out any other causes of his symptoms and to accurately determine what exactly he is allergic to. It may take more than one visit to get an exact diagnosis, but be persistent in getting to the cause of Caleb's itching and sneezing.

■ ■ ■

*Send your pet questions to Sam Mazzotta at ask@pawscorner.com, or write to Paw's Corner, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Find more pet resources at www.PawsCorner.com.*

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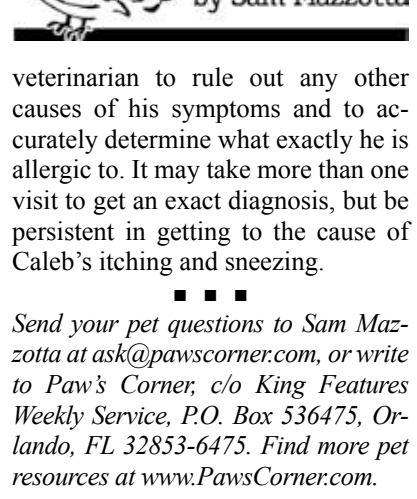
# Ideas to 'egg' on your imagination




Which came first—the chicken or the egg? Well, for many families at this time of year, there's no doubt. Eggs rule! While the kids are busy mixing, dipping and dying Easter eggs, rescue a few from the frenzy and decorate them together to fit each child's personality, interest or something special you share with him or her.

Dye and decorate hard-boiled eggs close to Easter and keep them refrigerated, or empty eggshells for special keepsake eggs to bring out from year to year. To empty an egg, poke a small hole with a straight pin at each end of a washed raw egg. Carefully wiggle a toothpick or wooden skewer into one of the holes to break the yolk. Place a drinking straw over the hole on top, and blow through the straw, collecting the contents of the egg in a small dish. Rinse out the empty shell and let dry.

Store in an empty egg carton.

## Here are ideas to "egg" on your imaginations with school-age kids:

■ Make a series of character eggheads with a game called "Pass It On!" Everyone begins with a blown egg and starts by painting or gluing on yarn or string to make hair. Then you pass the egg on, and each person adds eyes, eyeglasses, eyelashes or whatever! Pass it on, and add a nose and other features or details. When you're all done, set in eggcups to display and dry. You'll no doubt hear the cheers—"that's my nose!" "No, that's my nose, but it's your smile!"

■ Create a "You're a Good Egg" self-portrait using markers to draw the masterpiece onto the egg. Glue on craft-store movable eyes for personality and a feather for hair.

■ A previous trip to the zoo might conjure up your child's favorite animal or "eggimal." His or her version of a fish, penguin or exotic bird can be created by tracing with a pencil a pattern of a beak, feet or fins onto different colored foam craft sheets. Cut them out and glue them onto the painted egg.

Note: Use nontoxic dyes, markers and household glue with these and other crafts with children.

"The grandkids are coming!" tip: Start a tradition of creating keepsake eggs. Unpack them every year and arrange them in a table centerpiece, or hang them with thread glued to each egg from a bouquet of forsythia and blossoming branches.

■ ■ ■

*Donna Erickson's award-winning television series "Donna's Day" airs on public television nationwide. Visit www.donnasday.com to find out when it airs on your local PBS station and to sign up for Donna's e-newsletter.*

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# Life & Style

## Mummy of Egypt's monotheist pharaoh to return home

**CAIRO** (AP)—The DNA tests that revealed how the famed boy-king Tutankhamun most likely died solved another of ancient Egypt's enduring mysteries—the fate of controversial Pharaoh Akhenaten's mummy. The discovery could help fill out the picture of a fascinating era more than 3,300 years ago when Akhenaten embarked on history's first attempt at monotheism.

During his 17-year rule, Akhenaten sought to overturn more than a millennium of Egyptian religion and art to establish the worship of a single sun god. In the end, his bold experiment failed and he was eventually succeeded by his son, the young Tutankhamun, who rolled back his reforms and restored the old religion.

No one ever knew what became of the heretic pharaoh, whose tomb in the capital he built at Amarna was unfinished and whose name was stricken from the official list of kings.

Two years of DNA testing and CAT scans on 16 royal mummies conducted by Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities, however, gave the firmest evidence to date that an unidentified mummy—known as KV55, after the number of the tomb where it was found in 1907 in Egypt's Valley of the Kings—is Akhenaten's.

The testing, whose results were announced last month, established that KV55 was the father of King Tut and the son of the Pharaoh Amenhotep III, a lineage that matches Akhenaten's, according to inscriptions.

KV55 had long been assumed to be too young to be Akhenaten, who was estimated to be in his 40s at the time of his death—but the testing also established the mummy's correct age, matching the estimates for Akhenaten.

"In the end there was just one solution for this genetic data fitting into the family tree and this showed us this must really be Akhenaten and could not be any other," said Albert Zink, director of the Institute for Mummies and the Iceman at the European Academy in Bolzano, Italy, who worked on the project.

Now experts are planning more tests to uncover further details about Akhenaten's royal family. The new attention could also give a push to a planned new Akhenaten museum that will showcase his mummy near Amarna, his capital midway down the Nile in what is now the province of Minya, 135 miles (220 kilometers) south of Cairo.

In one tantalizing discovery, the testing established that another unidentified mummy was Akhenaten's sister, that he fathered Tutankhamun with her and that she appears to have died from violence with blows to her face and head.

Still elusive is Nefertiti, the chief wife of Akhenaten famed for her beauty. Egypt's antiquities chief, Zahi Hawass, has said one of his goals is to track down her mummy.

AP

A stela at the Egyptian museum in Cairo is seen Thursday, March 11, 2010 , Egypt, showing Pharaoh Akhenaten, his Queen Nefertiti and their children worshipping the sun in the more natural artistic style of the time.

"The Amarna period is like an unfinished play," Hawass said at the February press conference announcing the new discoveries. "We know its beginning but have never succeeded in discovering its end."

The discovery of Akhenaten's remains lay to rest longtime speculation over his physical appearance. Royal statues of the time show an effeminate figure with womanly hips, elongated skull and fleshy lips—leading to speculation he suffered from any number of rare diseases that distorted his body.

But the mummy and DNA tests showed a normally shaped man without genetic conditions that might given him both masculine and feminine features.

"It ought to dampen down some of the more dramatic interpretations," said Barry Kemp, who has been working on the Amarna excavations since 1977. "But people do love a good story."

Jerome Rose, of the University of Arkansas, who has been working on the site with Kemp, said the discovery "makes our work at Amarna of greater interest."

What the discovery does not resolve, however, is the mystery of how Akhenaten died. Unlike Tutankhamun's well preserved mummy, which showed he suffered from congenital defects and malaria, Akhenaten's remains are little more than bones with no soft tissues to provide clues to his death.

In fact, the difference in preservation between his skeleton and all the other royal mummies could have been due to his different religious beliefs or animosity by those burying him.

"I think it's another evidence that it really could be Akhenaten; he was treated differently, not in the same way as the other mummies," said Carsten Pusch, of the Institute of Human Genetics in Tubingen, who also worked on the project.

For most of world, King Tut embodies ancient Egypt's glory, because his tomb was packed to the brim with the glittering wealth of the rich 18th Dynasty (1569-1315 B.C.). But Tut was in fact a minor king.

Akhenaten's reign, which began around 1350 B.C., was far more momentous.

He broke with the powerful priests of Amun, Egypt's chief god, repudiated Egypt's many deities and ordered the worship of the sun disk, Aten. He moved his court to his new capital at Amarna, which grew to some 30,000.

Along with the religious revolution, he oversaw a dramatic change in Egyptian art, promoting a naturalist style at odds with the rigid conventions and stiff tomb paintings with which the world is familiar. In one example of the exuberant new style, remnants of a painted gypsum floor from the palace show colorful ducks exploding out of a riot of Nile reeds.

But after his death, he was purged by his successors and remained unknown to the world until the discovery in the 19th century of his royal city at Amarna—one of the only existing ruins of an ancient Egyptian city, rather than just a temple or tomb.

For a Victorian Europe already fascinated by the flood of discoveries in Egypt, news of a monotheist centuries ahead of his time seized the public's imagination. Theories have swirled over Akhenaten's legacy, with some like Sigmund Freud even speculating he may have influenced Judaism, a theory that, while discounted, has been remarkably enduring.

Unlike the animal and man-shaped deities of Egypt, Akhenaten's cult took a step toward worshipping something more abstract.

"He was prepared to believe only in the supernatural source of power that he could see with his own eyes, the disc or orb of the sun," said Kemp.

Akhenaten also set forth a new moral code. "His courtiers praised him for teaching them to distinguish between right and wrong, and I think it likely that he wrote a treatise of moral guidance that has not survived," he added.

The discovery of Akhenaten's body could be a boon to Minya, one of the poorer provinces in Egypt—quintessential "flyover" territory, skipped by tourists heading straight from the Giza pyramids outside Cairo to the temples of Luxor in the south, where the Valley of the Kings is located.

The museum in Minya will house the mummies of Akhenaten, his mother Queen Tiye and his ill-fated sister-consort and "tell the story about Akhenaten," Hawass said.

Amarna's ruins were once a regular stop for cruise boats steaming south from Cairo. But an insurgency by Islamist militants during the 1990s drove the tourists away and few have returned more than a decade after it was crushed.

The city's modest hotels still bear faded 1980s-era tourist posters touting the area as the "cradle of monotheism," with an image of Akhenaten.

Kemp says the occasional tour group does pass through to see the extensive Amarna ruins—most of them New Age-style pilgrims coming from as far away as Croatia and Brazil.

"There is a definite Akhenaten fan club. I am ntrigued by the existence of those who make a spiritual pilgrimage to Amarna," said Kemp.

## Hilary Mantel's 'Wolf Hall' wins fiction prize in NYC

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Hilary Mantel's "Wolf Hall," winner last year of the Man Booker Prize in London, was honored Thursday night on this side of the Atlantic Ocean.

The novel, set in the age of King Henry VIII, won the National Book Critics Circle Prize for fiction. It's a compassionate narrative of royal adviser Thomas Cromwell, a leading enforcer of the English Reformation and a rival of Sir Thomas More.

Mantel was not in attendance at Thursday's ceremony but issued a statement saying that she was working on a sequel and that the award is "the best possible encouragement."

Three British authors were winners Thursday: Mantel, historian Richard Holmes for general nonfiction and 92-year-old editor Diane Athill for autobiography.

Holmes was cited for his highly regarded study of the crossed stars of science and poetry, "The Age of Wonder." Blake Bailey's "Cheever: A Life," a thorough account of the late novelist John Cheever, was the biography winner, and Athill won for "Somewhere Towards the End," an atheist's spirited reflection on old age.

Rae Armantrout's "Versed" was cited for poetry, while the prize for criticism went to Eula Biss' essays on American life and culture, "Notes from No Man's Land."

Biss, noting that her book was a work of criticism released by a small publisher, Graywolf Press, said she didn't worry too much about what she wrote because she assumed no one would read it.

"You took away my comfort," she joked.

Honorary awards were given to Joyce Carol Oates for lifetime achievement and to New Yorker dance critic Joan Acocella for excellence in reviewing.

The NBCC awards were established in 1974. No cash prizes are given.

## Ga. man who posted 'Elton John must die' arrested

**ATLANTA** (AP)—A Georgia man who posted a video of himself on the Internet holding a sign that said "Elton John must die" has been arrested for making terroristic threats.

Neal Horsley, 65, was arrested early Wednesday in Carrollton, about 50 miles west of Atlanta, said Atlanta Police Sgt. Curtis Davenport. He would not say who Horsley is accused of threatening, but Horsley's son, Nathan, said he thought the arrest was connected to the video about the musician.

In the video posted Feb. 28 on YouTube, Horsley held the sign in front of a building where he said John has a condo. John's publicist, Fran Curtis, confirmed that John has an Atlanta apartment but declined further comment.

Horsley was upset that John, who is gay, told Parade magazine in an interview last month that he thought Jesus was a "compassionate, super-intelligent gay man who understood human problems."

"What Elton John has done is desecrated the image of the Lord Jesus Christ, blasphemed the Lord Jesus Christ," Horsley said in the video.

Horsley founded the Creator's Rights Party and has declared himself a candidate in the 2010 governor's race. He kicked off his campaign July 4, 2008 in downtown Carrollton, wearing a placard showing the head of an aborted fetus while singing an anti-abortion song.

The state ethics commission, which oversees election filings, has no record of Horsley's campaign.

He previously gained notoriety in the late 1990s for his role in establishing a Web site that published the names and addresses of doctors who performed abortions. Planned Parenthood officials called the site a "hit list for terrorists."

Fulton County jail records showed Horsley also faces charges of criminal defamation and disseminating terroristic threats over the Internet.

He was being held Thursday in the Fulton County jail on $40,000 bond. As conditions for his release, a judge said he must live with his son in a house with a phone landline and must pay 10 percent of his bond in cash.

Horsley's son said his father doesn't have an attorney.

# HBO brings World War II veterans to memorial in DC

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Tom Hanks, Steven Spielberg and Elizabeth Dole welcomed 250 veterans to the World War II memorial Thursday to honor their service and introduce a TV miniseries on the battles of the Pacific.

HBO and a nonprofit group brought the veterans to Washington to mark the premiere of a 10-part series called "The Pacific." It begins Sunday and focuses on the lives of U.S. Marines fighting the Japanese after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

The project follows the "Band of Brothers" series in 2001, which focused on the war in Europe.

"We did it because all of you are the greatest stories ever told," Spielberg told the veterans. Such movies and TV series are critical, he said, because "with each passing generation, more and more people are forgetting about World War II."

Hanks said ordinary Americans hate going to war, but they made the difference in World War II.

"You defined peace with these four words: The Americans are here," he told the veterans.

A decade earlier, Hanks raised money to build the memorial on the National Mall. It opened in 2004 and features pillars for the Atlantic and Pacific theaters of war.

In this Nov. 29, 2009 file photo, actress Betty White poses for a portrait in Burbank, Calif. AP

# Betty White to host 'Saturday Night Live'

**NEW YORK** (AP)—The Internet has gotten its way: Betty White will host "Saturday Night Live."

NBC said Thursday that the 88-year-old actress will host the show May 8. "SNL" executive producer Lorne Michaels says he can't think of a better way to spend Mother's Day weekend than with White.

The announcement followed a campaign on Facebook urging the sketch show to make White a host. The group attracted nearly half-a-million supporters.

White, whose starring roles include "The Golden Girls," was given a lifetime achievement award at the Screen Actors Guild Awards in January.

# Conan O'Brien will take his show to theaters

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Without a TV show to do every night, Conan O'Brien is taking his act on the road.

The former host of "The Tonight Show" announced a 30-city theater tour on Thursday. Sidekick Andy Richter and the former "Tonight Show" band will join O'Brien for what he promises to be "a night of music, comedy, hugging and the occasional awkward silence."

The "Legally Prohibited from Being Funny on Television Tour" begins April 12 in Eugene, Ore., and concludes June 14 in Atlanta. It will visit theaters in at least 20 states and two Canadian provinces. Additional dates may be added.

O'Brien quipped: "It was either a massive 30-city tour or start helping out around the house." On the itinerary is New York's Radio City Music Hall, just steps from where O'Brien first gained fame hosting "Late Night," and the Gibson Amphitheater in Universal City, Calif., near the studio where he presided over "The Tonight Show" for eight months.

O'Brien

The tour also will make a stop at the Bonnaroo Music & Arts Festival, the annual festival that takes place June 10-13 in Tennessee. Aside from performing in the comedy tent, O'Brien will emcee the festival's largest music stage on June 11 and 12, the festival said.

O'Brien quit "The Tonight Show" in January instead of taking NBC's offer to move his start time back by a half-hour to make room for "Tonight Show" veteran Jay Leno's return to late night from a failed prime-time show. He hasn't announced any future television plans.

Leno now is back in his old "Tonight" slot, which he had bequeathed to O'Brien last June.

## ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

### Stage adaptation of John Grisham novel is planned

**NEW YORK** (AP)—A stage adaptation of John Grisham's first novel, "A Time to Kill," will have its world premiere next year in Washington in what is being billed as a "pre-Broadway" production. Arena Stage's artistic director Molly Smith said Thursday the play will run May 6, 2011, through June 19, 2011, at Arena's Kreeger Theater. The best-selling novel will be adapted by Rupert Holmes, who wrote the musical "The Mystery of Edwin Drood." "A Time to Kill" concerns the murder trial of a father who takes the law into his own hands after his daughter is raped. A 1996 film version starred Matthew McConaughey, Sandra Bullock and Samuel L. Jackson. The play is being presented in Washington by arrangement with Daryl Roth, a New York producer.

### NYC ex-model sues over use of photo in comedy film

**NEW YORK** (AP)—A former model says she's appalled that her nearly decade-old bikini photo became a randy prop in the film "Couple's Retreat." Irina Krupnik filed a $10 million defamation lawsuit Thursday in a New York City court against NBC Universal. It distributed the 2009 Vince Vaughn comedy. Krupnik acknowledges she gave rights to the 2001 picture to a stock agency, which apparently sold it to the filmmakers. The lawsuit says a character in the movie uses her photo as a sexual aid. Krupnik's lawsuit says she never would have allowed the picture to be transformed from "a commonplace swimwear ad to softcore pornography." The 30-year-old makeup artist says it's hurting her reputation. An NBC Universal spokeswoman had no immediate comment.

### Ray Charles musical set for Broadway in November

**NEW YORK** (AP)—A musical celebrating Ray Charles is headed for Broadway this fall. "Unchain My Heart" will open Nov. 7 with preview performances beginning Oct. 8. Producer Stuart Benjamin said Thursday the show would feature a book by Suzan-Lori Parks and direction by Sheldon Epps. Casting will be announced. Benjamin worked with the late singer for 15 years and produced "Ray," the hit movie about his life starring Jamie Foxx. Parks won a Pulitzer Prize for her play "Topdog/Underdog." An earlier version of the musical called "Ray Charles Live" was produced at California's Pasadena Playhouse in 2007.

### Girlicious band member charged with having drugs

**GLENDALE, Calif.** (AP)—A member of the pop group Girlicious has been charged in California with drug possession with the intent to sell after Glendale police allegedly found a dozen plastic bags of cocaine in her Gucci purse. Prosecutors say 21-year-old Natalie Mejia (meh-HEE'-ah) of Diamond Bar and 28-year-old Peter Asencio of Burbank were charged Thursday in Glendale Superior Court. Asencio is accused of speeding in a 1998 Ford Mustang when he and Mejia were pulled over and arrested Tuesday night. Police say Mejia said the drugs were not hers and claimed she didn't know how they got into her purse. Asencio was also charged with driving on a suspended license. Arraignment was continued to April 15.

### Ex-soap actor admits resisting arrest in NYC fight

**NEW YORK** (AP)—A former "One Life to Live" star has admitted resisting arrest in a plea deal that resolves charges stemming from a fight at a New York City gas station. Nathaniel Marston pleaded guilty Thursday to the misdemeanor charge. He has completed an anger-management program, and his case is expected to be closed without jail time or probation. Marston was accused of attacking three men with a metal crate and kicking at police officers during the scuffle in October 2007 at a service station. Police say one officer was bruised. The 34-year-old actor played Dr. Michael McBain on the ABC soap opera from 2003 to 2007. He says he was dismissed after his arrest. A show spokeswoman declined to comment on the circumstances of his departure.

### Chavez thanks Sean Penn for slamming his critics

**CARACAS, Venezuela** (AP)—Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez is grateful that actor Sean Penn has defended him against his critics within the U.S. media. In an appearance on HBO's "Real Time with Bill Maher" last week, Penn slammed Chavez critics who refer to the socialist leader as a dictator. The Oscar-winning celebrity noted that Chavez has won repeated elections and suggested that media critics who call him a dictator should be jailed. He says that "there should be a bar for which one goes to prison for these kinds of biases." Penn has visited Chavez several times and frequently defends the president's leftist political policies. Chavez welcomed Penn's comments Wednesday and thanked the actor for standing up to his detractors.

# Tongues wag even after death of troubled teen

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

**DEAR ABBY**: I'm a junior in high school, and a girl I was acquainted with was killed in a car crash. The accident was the result of bad road conditions, and she wasn't wearing her seatbelt. The driver of the car survived.

Because this girl had a reputation for being a troublemaker—skipping classes, getting pregnant—some adults here think she got what she deserved. I think it's insensitive to say such things while her parents are mourning the loss of their daughter. She may not have been the nicest person, but I feel sad for her parents and the baby she left behind.

How do I respond to these negative comments?

SYMPATHETIC TEEN, PROSSER, WASH.

**DEAR SYMPATHETIC TEEN: I think you said it very well in your letter. That girl's parents are mourning the loss of their daughter, and this is a tragedy not only for them, but also for the baby who lost its mother. Yes, she made mistakes but none of them warranted the death penalty.**

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY**: I crave certain foods sometimes. My doctor said that when you crave a food, it means your body needs something that's contained in the food—such as salt on pretzels.

My grandmother thinks whenever I say I'm craving a food that I'm pregnant. I have tried to explain to her that I'm not—that sometimes when your body needs a certain vitamin or mineral, people crave foods that are high in it.

My grandmother insists that my doctor is wrong and doesn't know what she is talking about. She says the only time a woman craves a certain food is when she's pregnant. Unlike my doctor, my grandmother has not been to medical school. She thinks experience and age are everything, and science is nothing.

Abby, what should I say to my grandmother to help her understand that science is here for a reason?

CRAVING HELP IN MUSTANG, OKLA.

**DEAR CRAVING HELP: Please stop arguing with your grandmother because as steeped in "folk wisdom" as she appears to be, she isn't going to budge. I do have one suggestion, though. The most effective way to get her to quit telling you you're pregnant would be to stop telling her you have a craving.**

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY**: We recently remodeled my mother-in-law's house. She's now trying to move back in and put things away. She asks my opinion constantly about where things should go, but when I give her my answer, she always disagrees.

Her house is small and storage is limited. I try to give her ideas (which she asks for) for organizing her stuff—but then she says, "Oh, no," and shoves everything in her pantry.

I hate to see her clutter her house when she doesn't have to, and I feel her disregarding my help is intentional. What are your thoughts?

TRYING TO LET IT GO, RICHMOND, VA.

**DEAR TRYING: Your mother-in-law may ask your advice not because she intends to use it, but because she likes the attention she's getting from you. It's important that you emotionally disengage from what's going on, and remember that SHE will have to live with the disorganized mess she's creating, not you. You did your part by helping out with the remodel, so give yourself a pat on the back for that and step back. Your relationship with your mother-in-law will be better, and you'll experience less frustration if you do.**

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR READERS: To those who live where daylight saving time is observed, I offer this gentle reminder: Don't forget to turn your clocks forward one hour before going to bed tonight. Daylight saving time begins at 2 a.m. tomorrow, and you know what that means—spring is on the way!**

---

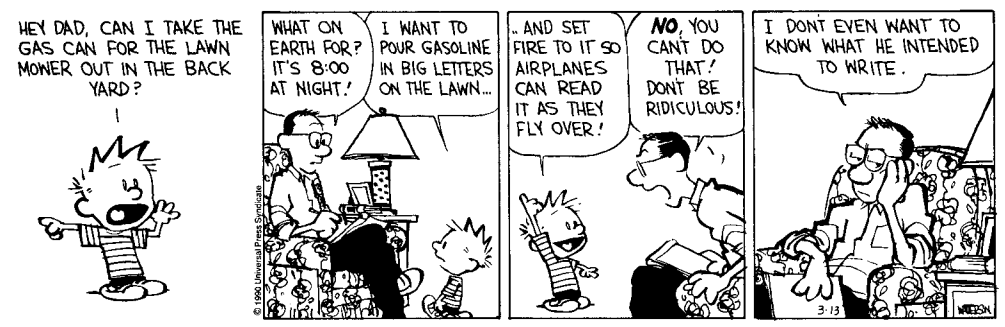
*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

*For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby – Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)*

# Pastimes

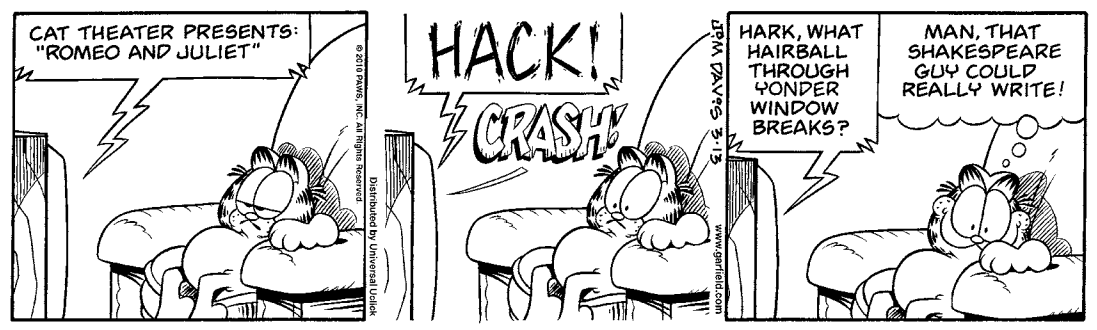
## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


HEY DAD, CAN I TAKE THE GAS CAN FOR THE LAWN MOWER OUT IN THE BACK YARD?
WHAT ON EARTH FOR? IT'S 8:00 AT NIGHT!
I WANT TO POUR GASOLINE IN BIG LETTERS ON THE LAWN...
..AND SET FIRE TO IT SO AIRPLANES CAN READ IT AS THEY FLY OVER!
NO, YOU CAN'T DO THAT! DON'T BE RIDICULOUS!
I DON'T EVEN WANT TO KNOW WHAT HE INTENDED TO WRITE.
3-13

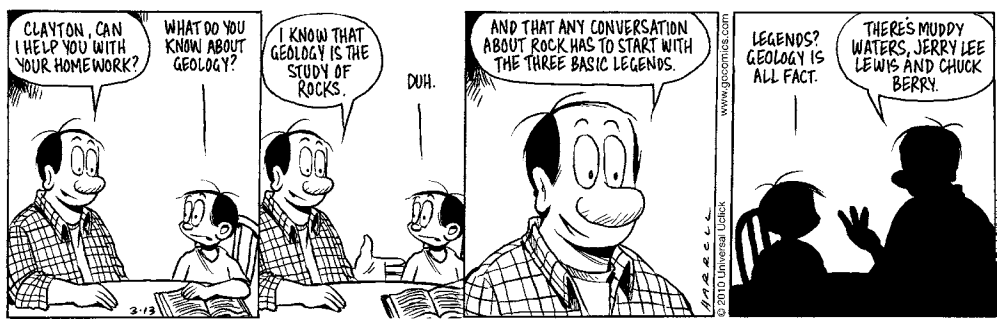
## Garfield®

By Jim Davis


CAT THEATER PRESENTS: "ROMEO AND JULIET"
HACK!
CRASH!
HARK, WHAT HAIRBALL THROUGH YONDER WINDOW BREAKS?
MAN, THAT SHAKESPEARE GUY COULD REALLY WRITE!
JIM DAVIS 3-13

## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


CLAYTON, CAN I HELP YOU WITH YOUR HOMEWORK?
WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT GEOLOGY?
I KNOW THAT GEOLOGY IS THE STUDY OF ROCKS.
DUH.
AND THAT ANY CONVERSATION ABOUT ROCK HAS TO START WITH THE THREE BASIC LEGENDS.
LEGENDS? GEOLOGY IS ALL FACT.
THERE'S MUDDY WATERS, JERRY LEE LEWIS AND CHUCK BERRY.
3-13

## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

## CROSSWORD

*By Eugene Sheffer*

**ACROSS**

1 Advertising award
5 Watch chains
9 Task
12 Antler
13 Archipelago component
14 Mentalist Geller
15 Last writes?
16 Decelerate
17 Marino of football
18 Victoria Beckham, a.k.a. — Spice
19 Intimidate
20 Brazen
21 Auto ad abbr.
23 Work with
25 Open declaration
28 Club on the green
32 Lattice strips
33 Broadway platform
34 Sans omission
36 One with remarkable skill
37 Author Deighton
38 Knight's title
39 Wisecrack
42 Pigpen
44 Flock
48 Literary collection
49 Platter
50 Largest of the seven
51 Unfriendly
52 Provo's location
53 Whip
54 Durocher or Tolstoy
55 "Pretty Woman" actor
56 Gasoline or wood

**DOWN**

1 Lamb serving
2 Timber wolf
3 Eye part
4 Generally
5 Re public revenues
6 Scandinavian city
7 Outburst of temper
8 Stitch
9 Martial art
10 Exam format
11 Predicament
20 Spouse, jokingly
22 Wallpaperer's need
24 Seaweed-wrapped fare
25 Will Smith biopic
26 Forefront
27 Mel of Cooperstown
29 Hosiery shade
30 Swelled head
31 Sleep phenom
35 Where the action is?
36 Soul
39 Hoosegow
40 Never again?
41 Deck
43 Despot
45 Jacob's brother
46 Ascend
47 Wonka's creator
49 Understood

**Solution time: 27 mins.**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| B | A | A | ■ | V | A | S | T | ■ | H | A | C | K |
| A | L | L | ■ | O | L | I | O | ■ | Y | U | L | E |
| D | E | L | A | W | A | R | E | ■ | P | R | A | Y |
| ■ | ■ | E | X | E | S | ■ | ■ | K | H | A | N | S |
| P | A | G | E | D | ■ | B | O | N | E | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| A | D | O | S | ■ | D | E | B | O | N | A | I | R |
| P | E | R | ■ | P | E | R | O | T | ■ | S | O | U |
| A | N | Y | W | H | E | R | E | ■ | P | I | T | H |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | E | A | S | Y | ■ | A | L | T | A | R |
| T | R | E | A | T | ■ | ■ | A | N | E | W | ■ | ■ |
| R | E | A | L | ■ | Y | O | G | I | B | E | A | R |
| I | N | S | T | ■ | I | B | I | S | ■ | R | U | E |
| M | O | T | H | ■ | P | I | N | E | ■ | E | F | T |

Yesterday's answer 3-13

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | ■ | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | ■ | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | | | | ■ | 13 | | | | ■ | 14 | | |
| 15 | | | | ■ | 16 | | | | ■ | 17 | | |
| 18 | | | | ■ | 19 | | | ■ | 20 | | | |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | 21 | 22 | | ■ | 23 | 24 | | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | | | | ■ | 28 | | | 29 | 30 | 31 |
| 32 | | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | 33 | | | | |
| 34 | | | | | 35 | ■ | 36 | | | | | |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | 37 | | | ■ | 38 | | | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| 39 | 40 | 41 | | ■ | 42 | 43 | | ■ | 44 | 45 | 46 | 47 |
| 48 | | | ■ | 49 | | | | ■ | 50 | | | |
| 51 | | | ■ | 52 | | | | ■ | 53 | | | |
| 54 | | | ■ | 55 | | | | ■ | 56 | | | |

**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY**: Adam Clayton, 50; Dana Delany, 54; William H. Macy, 60; Neil Sedaka, 71

**Happy Birthday**: Your ability to dream big can turn into a costly venture if you start something new without doing enough research. You need to utilize what you have, not incorporate the impossible. Listen to what people with experience and authority can offer. Then you can avoid the long-term effects that can plague you if you jump into something without enough knowledge or cash. Your numbers are 12, 19, 22, 26, 33, 41, 48

**ARIES** (*March 21-April 19*): Your emphasis must be on completion, moderation and detail. Any relationship that limits your creativity or right to enjoy life should be questioned and reconsidered. Your motives must be clear-cut and realistic. ✪✪✪✪

**TAURUS** (*April 20-May 20*): Expect to deal with other people's problems. Don't expect everyone to be honest with you regarding emotional issues or possible resolution. Trust issues will arise and can lead to a difference of opinion. ✪✪

**GEMINI** (*May 21-June 20*): Your intuition will guide you through some tough decisions and will help you decipher who is on your side and who isn't. Realize that people leaning on you or complaining are probably overreacting. A smart, fast response will be necessary and effective. ✪✪✪✪✪

**CANCER** (*June 21-July 22*): You can make some exciting decisions that can upgrade your professional plans. Changes to your living space will give you greater incentive to work from home. A small, personal business will ease your financial stress and build your confidence. ✪✪✪

**LEO** (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Travel plans should involve visiting an old friend or taking a course that allows you greater professional options. Getting involved with different cultural groups will open your eyes to a lifestyle. Don't be fooled by someone who embellishes the way things are. ✪✪✪

**VIRGO** (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Don't overspend on products or offers that promise to make you look better. Get together with someone you enjoy spending time with who can offer you good conversation and knowledge that you will be able to use to your advantage. ✪✪✪

**LIBRA** (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Take a look at some of the interests you have and decide what's good for you and what is a waste of time. You need to redirect your energy. You need a little down time to rejuvenate and spend with someone whose company you cherish. ✪✪✪

**SCORPIO** (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Fill your day with activities that challenge, motivate and inspire you. Relationships with people who can share your interests should be formed. Network through organizations that can use your skills and talent. ✪✪✪✪✪

**SAGITTARIUS** (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You will not get away with exaggerating the truth or pushing people to do things your way. Share your innovative ideas but allow people the freedom to follow a different path. A change of residence can help you out financially. ✪✪✪✪

**CAPRICORN** (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): It may come as a surprise, but there is someone in your past who can help you advance now. Make the first move and share your thoughts and plans for the future. Don't let a current personal relationship limit your chance to advance. ✪✪✪

**AQUARIUS** (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Emotional ties to someone from your past will compel you to reunite. Proceed with caution; nothing has changed. Once you finally let go, you will be open to new endeavors and new relationships. ✪✪✪

**PISCES** (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Someone will withhold important personal information that can influence the way you feel and act. Find out where you stand before you can make a commitment. Trying to be what someone else wants you to be will eventually break down the relationship. ✪✪✪

**Birthday Baby**: You are intuitive, imaginative and sensitive. You are a romantic, a visionary and a crusader for those less fortunate. You are creative, appealing and friendly.

*Eugenia's Web sites:* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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## SUDOKU

**Conceptis Sudoku** *By Dave Green*

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | | | 7 | | | 5 | | 1 |
| | | | | 4 | | 3 | | |
| | | 2 | | 7 | | | | 9 |
| | 6 | | | | | | 4 | |
| 5 | | | | 3 | | 2 | | |
| | | 9 | | 2 | | | | |
| 4 | | 1 | | | 9 | | | 6 |
| | | | | | | | | 7 |

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 3/13

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

**Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 1 | 6 | 9 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 8 | 5 |
| 9 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| 7 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 9 | 3 |
| 1 | 9 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 5 | 6 | 8 |
| 3 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 9 | 4 | 2 |
| 8 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 7 | 1 |
| 6 | 8 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 9 |
| 5 | 7 | 9 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 6 |
| 2 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 9 | 5 | 8 | 3 | 7 |

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 3/12

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## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

**ATHLETIC SHOES** **Solution: 8 letters**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| T | R | A | H | W | A | L | K | I | N | G | R | M | C | A |
| C | R | I | E | D | E | S | E | Y | T | E | F | A | S | R |
| L | K | A | A | R | U | I | F | D | B | H | S | A | T | N |
| E | G | E | C | P | O | I | G | B | O | U | G | A | O | N |
| A | R | Y | P | T | T | B | U | H | A | M | N | I | S | O |
| T | E | O | M | N | I | R | I | L | T | K | H | E | L | I |
| S | R | T | E | E | F | O | V | C | L | S | C | E | M | T |
| T | P | S | E | O | T | S | N | E | U | A | C | P | R | O |
| R | S | O | I | L | S | B | P | C | L | N | A | U | T | M |
| O | D | L | R | N | H | A | H | E | A | C | N | M | R | O |
| L | K | E | R | T | N | T | V | L | T | N | R | P | O | T |
| (L) | O | M | E | B | S | E | A | N | I | S | S | O | F | T |
| (E) | O | R | O | P | O | B | T | N | A | R | C | H | M | O |
| (E) | L | O | D | E | S | I | G | N | E | C | N | U | O | B |
| (H) | T | F | O | O | T | W | E | A | R | N | R | A | C | E |

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Absorb, Aerobic, Ankle, Arch, Athlete, Balance, Boot, Bottom, Bounce, Canvas, Casual, Cleats, Comfort, Cushion, Design, Feet, Fitness, Footwear, Form, Gym, Heel, Hike, Impact, Laces, Light, Look, Model, Motion, Pair, Pump, Race, Rubber, Running, Safety, Shoe, Sole, Speed, Sports, Step, Stroll, Support, Tennis, Toes, Traction, Tread, Trek, Velcro, Walking, Weight

**Yesterday's Answer: Caffeine**

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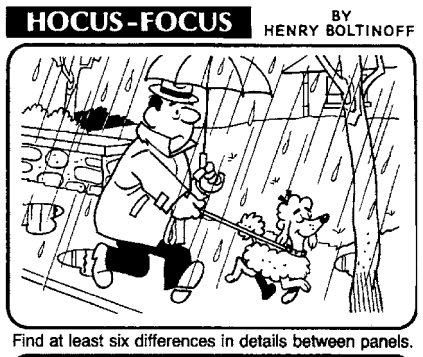
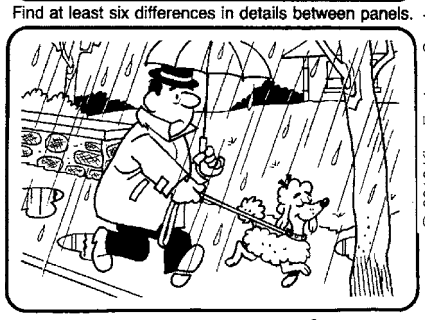
## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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leg is hidden. 4. Bushes added near house. 5. Tree is wider. 6. Leash is longer.

## Wishing Well®

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 6 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 3 |
| E | F | R | N | P | E | C | O | T | M | A | G | R |
| 5 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 8 | 7 | 8 | 7 | 3 |
| O | A | R | O | O | A | K | T | D | E | I | A | O |
| 8 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 2 |
| A | I | F | F | T | I | E | S | S | R | D | O | O |
| 6 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 3 | 4 | 6 |
| I | N | L | P | M | E | O | N | C | V | T | S | S |
| 7 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 7 |
| S | S | E | T | T | A | A | A | L | E | O | N | N |
| 6 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 3 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| P | O | T | K | D | G | P | O | E | E | R | D | O |
| 2 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 4 |
| L | A | I | D | R | E | S | H | F | I | E | G | H |

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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## Super Crossword

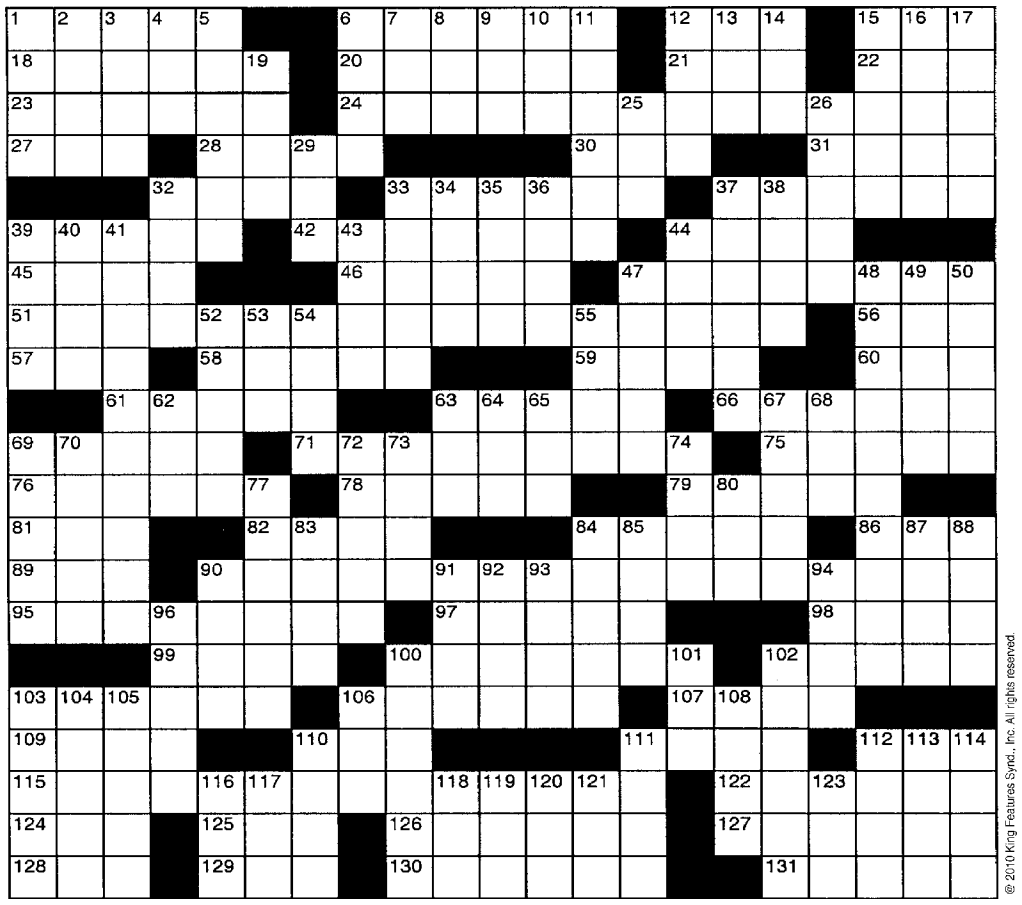
YULE HOG

**ACROSS**

1 Los —, CA
6 Shakespeare heroine
12 "— Ballou" ('65 film)
15 Bribe
18 '01 Audrey Tautou film
20 Drifting
21 He gives a hoot
22 "Tarzan" extra
23 Let up
24 Riddle: Part 1
27 Fashion monogram
28 Beethoven's birthplace
30 Highest card
31 Japanese city
32 Ashbrook or Carvey
33 "Taxi" star
37 Savage
39 Throbbed
42 Jazzman Dave
44 Compote component
45 Word with dance or dunk
46 Conflict site
47 Generosity
51 Riddle: Part 2
56 Cornfield cry
57 Turkish title
58 Indo-European
59 Pro foe
60 Cable channel
61 "Love Story" author
63 Bestow
66 "— of the North" ('22 film)
69 Botch
71 Ornamental material
75 Sheds
76 Cashew kin
78 Alpha opposite
79 It multiplies by dividing
81 Runner Sebastian
82 Choir member
84 Tennyson's "Enoch —"
86 Houston or Huff
89 — Arbor, MI
90 Riddle: Part 3
95 '74 Abba hit
97 Moshe of Israel
98 Annoy
99 Journalist Jacob
100 Part of FBI
102 Sapphire surface
103 Lysander's home
106 Delight
107 Obote's ouster
109 European capital
110 JFK abbr.
111 Candid
112 Burglarize
115 Answer to riddle
122 Where to find a fennec
124 Delivery truck
125 Help
126 Rococo
127 Dieter's portion
128 Meadow mama
129 Sneak a peek
130 Shows one's feelings
131 Author Zola

**DOWN**

1 Player or Puckett
2 Leon of "Mister Ed"
3 Reveal
4 Barcelona bravo
5 Seafaring storyteller
6 Pestiferous person
7 Mistaken
8 "Treasure Island" monogram
9 One — customer
10 Charleson or Carmichael
11 Storm
12 Crypt-analyst's concern
13 Impress immensely
14 RN's specialty
15 '78 Peace Nobelist
16 Glass work
17 Piano part
19 Short jacket
25 Rhine whine
26 Harden
29 Apprehend
32 Actress Moore
33 Part of HOMES
34 "Yeah, sure!"
35 Tahoe town
36 Injury after-effect
37 "White Christmas" composer
38 Fad
39 Movie mutt
40 Drain problem
41 Aggravation
43 Sita's spouse
44 Covenant
47 Panelist Paul
48 SAT part
49 Wooden shoe
50 Lucas critters
52 Philistine deity
53 Precambrian —
54 Auel heroine
55 Light wagon
62 Maestro de Waart
63 Vigoda or Fortas
64 Witty one
65 Botanist Gray
67 Correct
68 British big shot
69 Tropical screecher
70 Actress Massey
72 Government game
73 Out of control
74 Pianist Lupu
77 Showy flower
80 With 121 Down, famed Giant
83 Vientiane's nation
84 Mindful
85 Barrett or Jaffe
87 Competent
88 TV's "— the Press"
90 Decree
91 "— fixe"
92 Nothing, in Navarra
93 Colors
94 Neighbor of Pakistan
96 Comic Leon
100 Chocolate or strawberry
101 Drink like a dachshund
102 It may be grand
103 White wine
104 "Fie!"
105 Isolated
106 School grp.
108 Clutter
110 Guitarist Duane
111 Singles
112 Sitarist Shankar
113 Hurler Hershiser
114 Unadorned
116 Singing syllables
117 Shrill sound
118 High dudgeon
119 Genetic letters
120 Cul-de- —
121 See 80 Down
123 "Run to —" ('61 hit)



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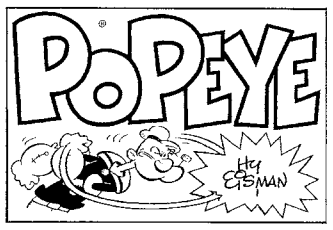
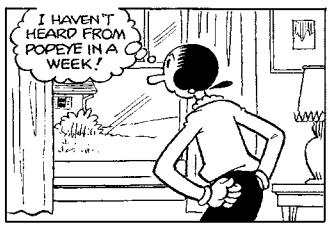
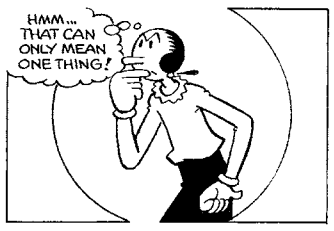
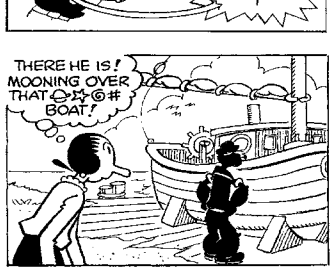
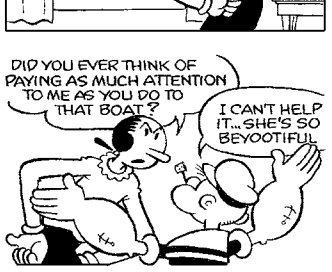
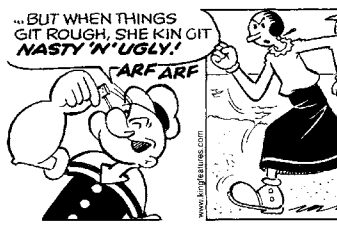


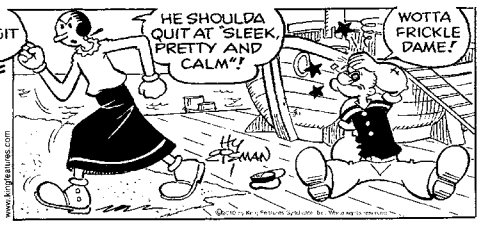



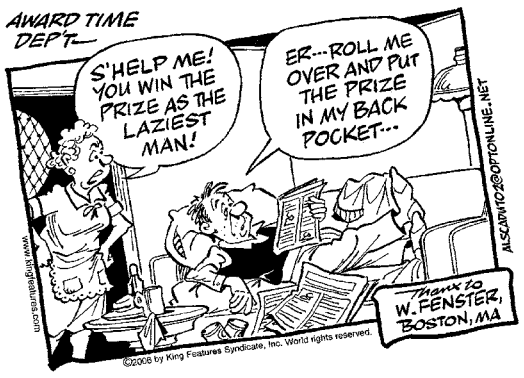






They'll Do It Every Time — by Al Scaduto


AWARD TIME DEPT—
S'HELP ME! YOU WIN THE PRIZE AS THE LAZIEST MAN!
ER...ROLL ME OVER AND PUT THE PRIZE IN MY BACK POCKET...
Thanx to W. FENSTER, BOSTON, MA
ALSCAW102@OPTONLINE.NET
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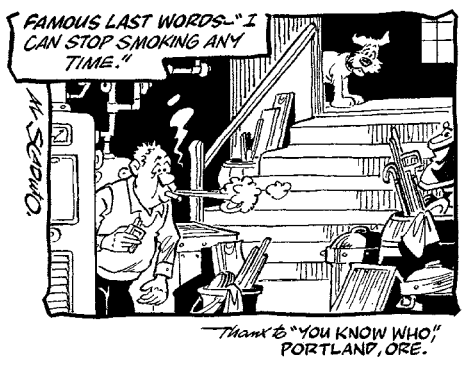
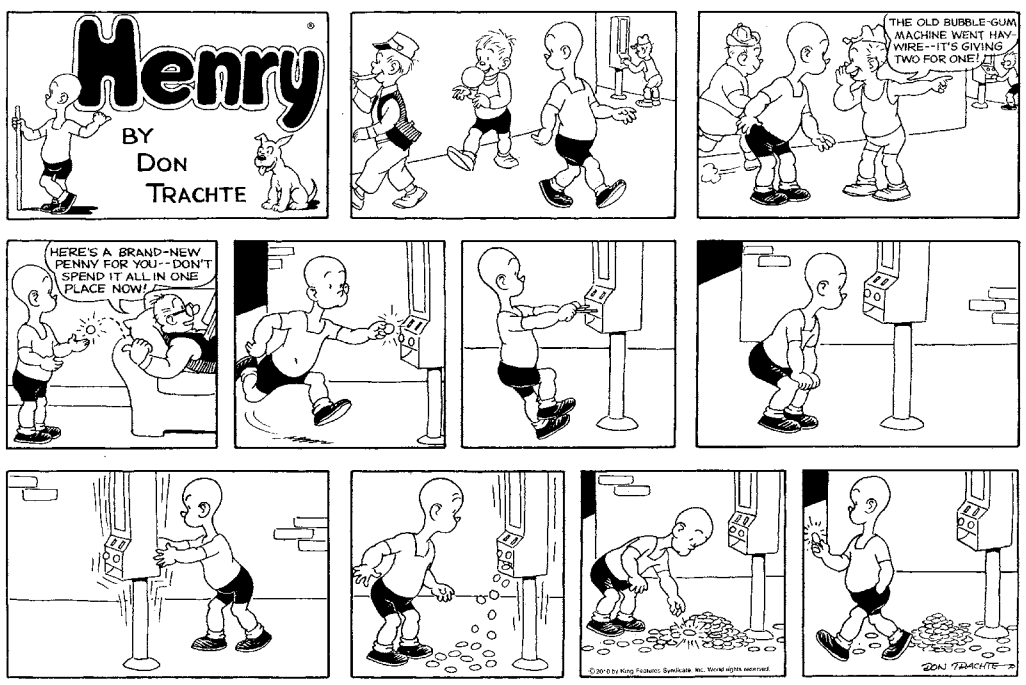


MEDICAL FUN and GAMES— THE GAL WHO WANTS THE FREE TELEPHONE VISIT--and FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY YET....
DOCTOR--THE WAITING ROOM IS FILLED UP..
THIS IS MRS. ANNOYA, DOCTOR--JUNIOR HAS A VERY SORE THROAT AND LOOPIE HAS AN EARACHE.. I DON'T WANT TO BRING THEM OUT IN THE COLD TO YOUR OFFICE -- JUST TELL ME WHAT TO DO-- HOLD ON---I'LL GET A PENCIL AND PAPER..
Thanx to J. MEROLA, THE BRONX, N.Y.


Henry
BY DON TRACHTE
THE OLD BUBBLE-GUM MACHINE WENT HAYWIRE--IT'S GIVING TWO FOR ONE!
HERE'S A BRAND-NEW PENNY FOR YOU--DON'T SPEND IT ALL IN ONE PLACE NOW!
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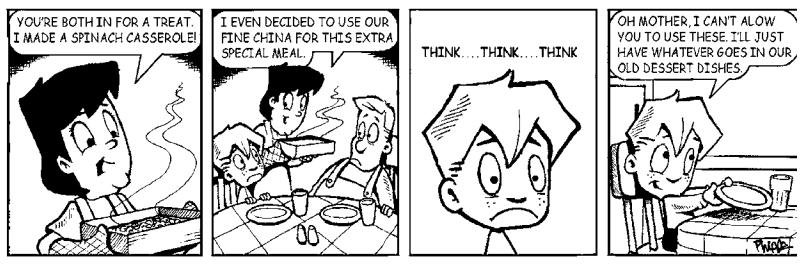
DON TRACHTE

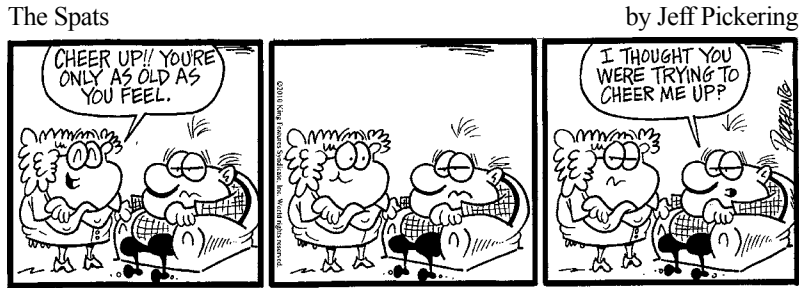
## Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. THEATER: Who played the lead role in "Hello, Dolly!" when the play first started on Broadway?
2. MEDICAL: What's the common name of the condition called nasopharyngitis?
3. LANGUAGE: What is called a "torch" in England would be known in the United States as what?
4. TELEVISION: Who created the character called "The Hippy Dippy Weatherman"?
5. MOVIES: What movie featured the line, "Houston, we have a problem"?
6. MUSIC: What pop-rock band had a Grammy-winning song called "If You Leave Me Now"?
7. SCIENCE: What inventor was known as "The Wizard of Menlo Park"?
8. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which planet is associated with the astrological sign Gemini?
9. ARTS: Who choreographed the ballet "Rodeo"?
10. ASTRONOMY: In our solar system, which planet is between Jupiter and Uranus?

Amber Waves — by Dave T. Phipps


YOU'RE BOTH IN FOR A TREAT. I MADE A SPINACH CASSEROLE!
I EVEN DECIDED TO USE OUR FINE CHINA FOR THIS EXTRA SPECIAL MEAL.
THINK....THINK....THINK
OH MOTHER, I CAN'T ALOW YOU TO USE THESE. I'LL JUST HAVE WHATEVER GOES IN OUR OLD DESSERT DISHES.

The Spats — by Jeff Pickering


CHEER UP!! YOU'RE ONLY AS OLD AS YOU FEEL.
I THOUGHT YOU WERE TRYING TO CHEER ME UP?
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**Answers**

1. Carol Channing
2. A cold
3. A flashlight
4. George Carlin
5. "Apollo 13"
6. Chicago
7. Thomas Edison
8. Mercury
9. Agnes de Mille
10. Saturn

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**Saturday's Answers**

# CLASSIFIED ADS

## CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

*Saipan Tribune's* Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

### CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

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|---|---|---|
| • 3-Liner | $15 | $27 |
| • 5-Liner | $24 | $39 |
| • 3-Liner with picture | $24 | $42 |
| • 5-Liner with picture | $36 | $57 |

### ADVERTISING DEADLINE

**Classified Ads**

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

### CANCELLATION

**Classified Ads**

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

### REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

### CHECK YOUR ADS

*Saipan Tribune* will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

### ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Starting as low as... $25.00
Call: 233-9889, 483-8866 or 233-8866
$100 Security Deposit Required
Please visit QQ Store Garapan (2nd Road behind Fire Station)

**FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL**

2 Bedroom Apartment for Rent. For $210.00 / month Koblerville, please call 288-0728.

**FOR SALE**

Limited time offer for 4 GB flash drive for only $9.99 at Sprockets & Rockets pls call 234 1425

WHATZIT Solution: Forgive and forget

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Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

GIVE RECEIVE

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Sports
Angamwas rules 4-person
Tribune
FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
TUESDAY DECEMBER 15, 2009
Vol. XIX, Issue No. 299
Fitial eyes Cepeda's re-appointment to NMC board.
DPH to ask for extension of emergency declaration.
$1.35M earmarks for NMI now up for Obama's
By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
Fitial: Ombudsman shouldn't accommodate 'overstayers'
10 DAYS to go before Christmas
OPINION METER
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# Sources: Woods likely to return at Masters

**DORAL, Fla.** (AP)—Tiger Woods intends to remain out of golf at least until the Masters, two people with knowledge of his plans told The Associated Press on Thursday.

Woods has been practicing at Isleworth near his Orlando home the last two weeks, and swing coach Hank Haney flew there during the weekend to work with him. That led to speculation Thursday he was close to playing again.

The two people, who spoke on condition of anonymity because only Woods is supposed to release such information, say he is likely to play first at Augusta National in April.

Woods twice has gone nine weeks without competing before showing up at a major. The first time was in 2006, when he didn't play after the Masters while coping with his father's death, then missed the cut in a major for the first time in the U.S. Open at Winged Foot. Two years ago, he was out with knee surgery until winning the U.S. Open at Torrey Pines on a shattered left knee.

Woods has not played since Nov. 15, when he won the Australian Masters in Melbourne for his 82nd career victory. Twelve days later, he crashed his SUV into a tree near his Florida home, setting off shocking revelations that he had been cheating on his wife.

In his first public appearance Feb. 19 at the TPC Sawgrass, when he apologized for his behavior and confessed to having extramarital affairs, he said he would return to golf and that "I don't rule out that it will be this year."

There have been signs during the last few weeks he was getting closer.

Woods returned from family therapy in Arizona on Feb. 28 and began getting into a routine of fitness and practice. Haney was working with Woods on the practice range earlier this week.

Mark Steinberg, his agent at IMG, came to the CA Championship at Doral this week to do business—Steinberg also is the managing director of golf for IMG, which conducts numerous tournaments around the world.

Meanwhile, former White House press secretary Ari Fleischer declined to comment on reports that he had been brought on board to help with Woods' return. Fleischer said in an e-mail to the AP he could neither confirm nor deny that Woods was a client.

Several reports said Woods was planning his return at Bay Hill for the Arnold Palmer Invitational, where he is the defending champion and a six-time winner on a course that is a short drive from his home.

Bay Hill is the only regular PGA Tour event that Woods has never missed since turning pro.

Tournament director Scott Wellington already had made contingency plans for media and security, as have other PGA Tour events upon learning that Woods had returned to practice.

Wellington said he had not heard anything from Woods or his management team.

"At this point, we still don't know," he said. "He has until next Friday to commit. But it was a busy day, for sure. We had a lot of calls, a lot of interest and we sold some tickets. It was interesting."

Woods won at Bay Hill last year for his first victory since an eight-month layoff from knee surgery.

He is a four-time Masters champion, setting records in 1997 as the youngest winner with the lowest 72-hole score. The Masters is more restrictive of media credentials than any other major, and it is the one tournament where the media is not allowed inside the ropes.

Tournament week is April 5-11.

Woods typically has a press conference on Tuesday of the Masters, and the Champions Dinner also is held that night.

AP

Peter Hanson, right, of Sweden, putts on the practice green in front of a billboard showing Tiger Woods during practice at the World Golf Championships-CA Championship in Doral, Fla. Wednesday, March 10, 2010.

# Tomlinson leaves Vikings, headed to Jets

**EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn.** (AP)—The Minnesota Vikings wined and dined LaDainian Tomlinson on Wednesday night, then spent much of Thursday meeting with the star running back in hopes of pairing him with Adrian Peterson in what would be a big-name backfield.

Tomlinson emerged from Vikings headquarters on Thursday evening with a purple Vikings jersey in hand, but pulled away in a black limousine without a deal in place.

Tomlinson declined to comment to reporters before the limo drove away, but several people with knowledge of the negotiations told The Associated Press that the two sides had yet to reach a deal and Tomlinson was headed to the New York Jets for a visit on Friday. Those people spoke anonymously because talks are ongoing with Tomlinson.

That doesn't mean the Vikings have lost out on their first choice to replace the departed Chester Taylor as the third-down back behind Peterson. But it does show that Tomlinson is being deliberate and thorough in his first foray into free agency after nine mostly brilliant seasons with the San Diego Chargers.

As Tomlinson chases the Super Bowl appearance that has eluded him so far, he has set his sights early on two teams that advanced to the conference championship games in January and also place an emphasis on the running game.

After visiting the Vikings, who lost to the Saints in the NFC title game, Tomlinson will now visit Rex Ryan and the Jets, who fell to the Indianapolis Colts in the AFC title game.

With the Jets, Tomlinson would back up Shonn Greene, who emerged in his rookie season and helped make Thomas Jones expendable in New York. Jones signed with the Kansas City Chiefs earlier this week.

Minnesota lost the dependable Taylor to the Chicago Bears, so it needs an experienced, versatile player behind the All-Pro Peterson. Tomlinson's ability to catch the ball out of the backfield and fill in as a capable pass blocker makes him an ideal fit.

"I'm sure he wants to know what our vision is for him and then our sense for him is, will he fit? From a mindset standpoint, from a physical standpoint, from a systems standpoint," Vikings coach Brad Childress said Wednesday about the visit.

Tomlinson was released by the Chargers in February. After being drafted in 2001, he skyrocketed to stardom and helped put the Chargers back on the map. He ranks eighth on the NFL's all-time rushing list with 12,490 yards. His 138 career touchdowns rushing rank second, and his 153 total touchdowns rank third.

But he never reached a Super Bowl in San Diego and age and injuries started to take their toll in recent seasons. Tomlinson will turn 31 in June and is coming off the least productive season of his career. He had 730 yards rushing on 223 carries for an average of 3.3 yards per carry, all career lows. He still managed to score 12 touchdowns, but his role was reduced in an offense that shifted its focus to Philip Rivers and the passing game.

With Peterson already in Minnesota, Tomlinson would not have to be the every-down, do-everything player he was with the Chargers. But the reduced role could put him in a position to get that first Super Bowl.

"It's the old close but no cigar. That's what comes to mind," Childress said. "I'm sure as he's surveying the landscape of people that are approaching he and his agent, that's always something. You don't really want to go somewhere and get your brains beat out. You want to go and have a chance to win and compete and win that ultimate prize."

The role could fit him well at this stage of his career. He is an excellent route runner and superb pass catcher, two things Peterson is still working on heading into his fourth season.

Tomlinson also could be intrigued by the possibility of taking handoffs from Brett Favre. The quarterback is still mulling whether to return for a 20th NFL season.

Favre's return could give the Vikings a slight edge over the Jets, who will have Mark Sanchez returning for a second season under center after a promising rookie year. But the Jets' stellar offensive line and the fact that they play on grass and not artificial turf, could be attractive for Tomlinson as well.

It was unclear on Thursday night when Tomlinson would make a decision, or if he has any more visits scheduled after the Jets.

# Schwartzel takes lead at Doral

**DORAL, Florida** (AP)—Charl Schwartzel managed to get around the famed Blue Monster course without a bogey on his way to a 5-under 67 and a one-shot lead Thursday on a rough-and-tumble day in the World Golf Championship event.

Schwartzel, who got into the elite field with two victories in his native South Africa at the start of the season, had five birdies in a mistake-free round.

Not so fortunate were Ernie Els, Robert Allenby and Vijay Singh, all of them poised to claim a share of the lead or better until they stepped to the tee on the 443-yard closing hole at Doral that was playing into a wind strong enough to knock the caps of some players.

Singh was in the lead until hitting his tee shot into the water and making double bogey, giving him a 68.

Els was tied for the lead until his approach around the palm trees came up short and into the water. He scrambled for a bogey and also wound up with a 68.

Allenby, who had a five-shot lead early in the round when he was at 8 under through 12 holes, finished with four straight bogeys, the last one when he blasted out of a back bunker and saw his ball roll off the green and nearly into the water. He had 68 and found perspective quickly.

"That's the way things go," Allenby said. "If someone had said you're going to shoot 4 under today, I would have taken it."

Schwartzel could not have agreed more.

The south Florida wind, which gives the Blue Monster its fangs, was gusting when the 68-man field teed off and only relented late in the afternoon. Schwartzel got the toughest part of the course—No. 18—out of the way early because he started on the back nine. He was among the few players who made par on a hole that averaged 4.65 strokes, which was higher than three of the par 5s.

"I didn't think 67 was out there at the beginning of the day, with the wind as strong as it was," Schwartzel said. "Early on, I made five birdies, which I thought you could do, especially with three par 5s being downwind. Some of them you're hitting wedge. The big achievement for me today was not making any bogeys. That kept the scorecard very clean."

Francesco Molinari of Italy was tied for the lead until he went into the water and made double bogey, giving him a 69 and putting him in the group that included Pebble Beach winner Dustin Johnson and Paul Casey.

Luke Donald had one of five birdies on the 18th, holing a bunker shot, and was in a group at 70 that also featured Padraig Harrington, Jim Furyk and Martin Kaymer.

Defending champion Phil Mickelson, who was in Houston last week while his wife was treated for breast cancer, did not arrive until Wednesday night and spent the morning shaking off some rust. Mickelson, who had two drivers in his bag to negotiate the wind, was pleased with his opening 71.

"I know it's not in contention yet, but my goal was to shoot something solid and improve on it each day. So I have to go lower each day," Mickelson said.

Tee times were moved up Friday with storms in the forecast for the afternoon. The threat that figures to remain all week is the finishing hole, one of the toughest on the PGA Tour.

"Today, it was almost like a par 5," Singh said.

# Magic roll past Bulls as Rose sprains wrist

AP

Orlando Magic guard Vince Carter (15) makes a shot between Chicago Bulls center Brad Miller (52), forward Taj Gibson (22), and forward James Johnson (16) during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Orlando, Fla., Thursday, March 11, 2010.

**ORLANDO, Fla.** (AP)—Dwight Howard insists he didn't intend to hurt Derrick Rose. He was just protecting the basket.

So when Rose drove the lane hard and tried to finish over the towering center for the second time this season, the man who goes by "Superman" again delivered on his nickname.

The Man of Steel.

"I think if you hit something that doesn't move," Howard said, "you usually end up falling."

Howard went up. Rose went down. Two teams continued to head in opposite directions.

Vince Carter had 23 points to help the Magic pull away early and cruise past the injured Bulls, 111-82 on Thursday night for a season-high seventh straight win.

Matt Barnes added 14 points, and reserve Brandon Bass scored 13 in another blowout victory against a struggling team for the Magic.

"That's what we should've done," Magic coach Stan Van Gundy said. "They started the game a little undermanned, and then obviously when Rose went down, they were very undermanned."

Rose sprained his left wrist in the midair collision with Howard in the first quarter and didn't return for the Bulls, the latest setback in a season that's quickly going sour. Taj Gibson and Hakim Warrick had 12 points apiece, not nearly enough to prevent Chicago's sixth consecutive loss.

"We've got to find a way to get healthy and weather the storm," Bulls coach Vinny Del Negro said. "But there's no question we are a battered bunch right now."

The Magic have left their mark on the Bulls this season—a big bruise the last two meetings for Rose.

The play was almost identical to the one that sidelined the Bulls star when the teams last met Feb. 10. Rose clutched his lower back and wrist before slowly rising to his feet, making one of the free throws.

"He's going full speed, and he's hitting basically an immovable object," Van Gundy said.

Rose stayed in the game before being taken to the locker room after the quarter for an X-ray, which came back negative. He will have an MRI on Friday in Miami.

## Hawks 105, Wizards 99

At Washington, as he sits on the bench at the start of each game, Jamal Crawford analyzes the opposition, the defenses they are employing, and the flow of the game. The Atlanta Hawks are sure glad their sixth-man extraordinaire is a quick study.

Crawford scored 29 points and the Hawks avoided a three-game losing streak by beating the Washington Wizards 105-99 Thursday night.

"You get a chance to see what teams are doing on coverage and how you can kind of pick them apart and dissect them," said Crawford, who has led the Hawks in scoring 21 times this season. "Then I can come in and try to help do that."

The Hawks were unable to shake the Wizards for nearly three quarters before Crawford scored 12 points in the final 3:37 of the third quarter, connecting on two of his four made 3-pointers and then finishing with six free throws.

"I just wanted to mix it up," Crawford said. "I didn't want to settle just for threes after that. I knew they would get up closer so I wanted to get by them and get to the free-throw line and kind of slow the game down a little bit."

The free throws spurred a 13-1 run bridging the third and fourth quarters to help the Hawks take an 85-73 lead.

"He just comes in and changes the game," Al Horford said of the Hawks' super sub. "He really gave us a lift when we needed him to. It was tied 66-66 and he came in and made two threes and I think that changed the complexion of the game.

## Blazers 110, Warriors 105

At Oakland, California, Brandon Roy scored 41 points, Andre Miller added 15 points and seven assists and the Portland Trail Blazers overcame a 13-point deficit in the fourth quarter to beat the Golden State Warriors 110-105 on Thursday night.

Rudy Fernandez added 12 points including a pair of pivotal 3-pointers during a late 17-3 run by the Blazers.

Portland also avoided what would have been a costly defeat as it tries to hold onto the eighth spot in the Western Conference.

Corey Maggette scored 24 points and Monta Ellis added 17 before fouling out in his first game back following a six-game absence for Golden State, which lost its sixth straight.

The Blazers won for the fifth time in six games and moved a season-high 11 games above .500.

It wasn't easy.

Portland trailed 96-83 entering the fourth quarter after struggling offensively most of the night and didn't show much signs of life before rallying. The Blazers did it despite Roy scoring just three of his points over the final 12 minutes.

Aldridge had six points during a 10-2 run to start the comeback in the fourth. Fernandez later hit back-to-back 3-pointers to tie the game at 102 and Aldridge added a key three-point play to give Portland a 108-102 lead with 1:39 left.

Stephen Curry made a 3-pointer for Golden State but Reggie Williams missed what would have been a tying 3 with 49.9 seconds left. Miller then sealed the win for Portland with a pair of free throws.

The Blazers hadn't done much until then except for Roy.

He had 24 points in the first half then added 14 more in the third quarter before topping the 40-point mark for the third time this season.

Roy finished 14 of 22 from the floor and added eight rebounds with four assists.

Ellis, who had not played since scoring 22 points in a 127-112 loss to Denver on Feb. 25, nearly led the Warriors to an upset after getting cleared to play earlier in the day after sitting out six games due to a strained lower back.

## NBA BRIEFS

### LeBron ready to return against 76ers

**INDEPENDENCE, Ohio** (AP)—Cavaliers star LeBron James is tired of watching basketball and ready to start playing again. James missed two games after twisting his right ankle last Friday against Detroit, but is likely to play at Philadelphia on Friday night. "I'm always a guy who wants to play every game, but I think now looking back it was definitely the right decision to give the injuries I had some rest," James said Thursday after practicing for the first time this week. "It's not often you can look in the schedule and get a week off and only miss two games, so we took advantage of it." He says he would have played through the injury had it been the playoffs, but instead the team chose to be cautious. While sidelined, James watched his alma mater, St. Vincent-St. Mary, win an Ohio high school playoff game on Wednesday. He also watched NBA games on a wall of televisions in the basement of his 35,000-square foot house. "I'm very excited," James said about playing the 76ers. "It's going to be a good, fun night." The news isn't as good for teammate Antawn Jamison. Cavs coach Mike Brown said on his radio show Thursday night that Jamison will sit out Friday's game because of a cyst behind his left knee. Jamison, acquired in a trade last month from Washington, sat out the fourth quarter of Cleveland's win Monday against San Antonio. Jamison has been bothered by stiffness in his knee all season. He says he can manage it with rest and rehab

### Arenas changes uniform to No. 6

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Goodbye, "Agent Zero." Gilbert Arenas is switching his uniform number. The suspended guard submitted paperwork to go from No. 0 to No. 6, and the NBA approved the change, league spokesman Tim Frank confirmed in an e-mail to The Associated Press on Thursday. Arenas has worn zero since college, saying he picked that number because that's how many minutes people expected him to play at Arizona. Last Friday was the deadline for NBA players to file paperwork seeking a new number. Cavaliers star LeBron James(notes) asked to switch from No. 23 to No. 6 next season. Arenas was given a season-ending suspension by the NBA for bringing guns to the locker room. He pleaded guilty to a felony gun possession charge in January and is scheduled to be sentenced March 26.

### Beasley to be game-time decision vs Bulls

**MIAMI** (AP)—Heat forward Michael Beasley has a bruised left thigh and is listed as a game-time decision for Miami's key game against the Chicago Bulls on Friday night. Beasley is Miami's second-leading scorer behind Dwyane Wade, averaging 15.3 points per game. He got hit in the thigh in the third quarter of Wednesday's win against the Los Angeles Clippers. Entering Thursday's games, Miami held the eighth spot in the Eastern Conference playoff race, barely ahead of No. 9 Chicago.

## Reyes told to rest until thyroid normalizes

**NEW YORK** (AP)—All-Star shortstop Jose Reyes has been told to rest and refrain from athletic activity for 2-to-8 weeks until his thyroid levels normalize, another blow to the New York Mets before opening day.

Center fielder Carlos Beltran already is expected to miss the first month of the season following right knee surgery Jan. 13. Reyes appears likely to also start the season on the disabled list.

"It doesn't look good right now." Mets general manager Omar Minaya said Thursday. "We will have to prepare for that."

Reyes has been diagnosed with an overactive thyroid, and his levels were elevated after he exercised Monday and Tuesday. While he initially thought he might be able to return after a few days, he will have to stop working out and will remain at home.

"Jose is obviously a little bit disappointed that it's going to be a matter of weeks as opposed to days, but it's a completely, treatable, curable situation," said his agent, Peter Greenberg. "I think we all view it as good news."

Doctors detected an abnormality during his physical, and Reyes was taken out of the lineup March 4 for additional medical tests. Reyes was told not to raise his heart rate and to refrain from eating seafood, which has iodine. He will be tested weekly.

Minaya and Greenberg said the thyroid should return to normal with rest and diet.

"There is no medication for this," Minaya said.

The cause of the elevated thyroid wasn't clear.

"We heard it could be something that could have been dietary or it could have been a virus," Minaya said.

Reyes, Beltran and first baseman Carlos Delgado missed long stretches last year as the Mets slumped to a 70-92 record and fourth place in the NL East. Delgado became a free agent and had hip surgery again last month.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### NBA STANDINGS

**EASTERN CONFERENCE**

**Atlantic Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Boston | 40 | 23 | .635 | – |
| Toronto | 32 | 31 | .508 | 8 |
| Philadelphia | 23 | 41 | .359 | 17 1/2 |
| New York | 22 | 42 | .344 | 18 1/2 |
| New Jersey | 7 | 57 | .109 | 33 1/2 |

**Southeast Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Orlando | 46 | 20 | .697 | – |
| Atlanta | 41 | 23 | .641 | 4 |
| Charlotte | 32 | 31 | .508 | 12 |
| Miami | 33 | 32 | .508 | 12 |
| Washington | 21 | 41 | .339 | 23 |

**Central Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cleveland | 50 | 15 | .769 | – |
| Milwaukee | 34 | 29 | .540 | 15 |
| Chicago | 31 | 33 | .484 | 18 1/2 |
| Detroit | 22 | 42 | .344 | 27 1/2 |
| Indiana | 21 | 43 | .328 | 28 1/2 |

**WESTERN CONFERENCE**

**Southwest Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dallas | 45 | 21 | .682 | – |
| San Antonio | 37 | 25 | .597 | 6 |
| Memphis | 34 | 31 | .523 | 10 1/2 |
| Houston | 32 | 31 | .508 | 11 1/2 |
| New Orleans | 32 | 33 | .492 | 12 1/2 |

**Northwest Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Denver | 43 | 21 | .672 | – |
| Utah | 42 | 22 | .656 | 1 |
| Oklahoma City | 39 | 24 | .619 | 3 1/2 |
| Portland | 39 | 28 | .582 | 5 1/2 |
| Minnesota | 14 | 51 | .215 | 29 1/2 |

**Pacific Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| L.A. Lakers | 47 | 18 | .723 | – |
| Phoenix | 40 | 25 | .615 | 7 |
| L.A. Clippers | 25 | 40 | .385 | 22 |
| Sacramento | 22 | 43 | .338 | 25 |
| Golden State | 17 | 47 | .266 | 29 1/2 |

**Yesterday's Games**

Orlando 112, Chicago 82
Atlanta 105, Washington 99
Portland 110, Golden State 105

### WORLD GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES

**FIRST ROUND**

| | |
|---|---|
| Charl Schwartzel | 67 |
| Robert Allenby | 68 |
| Vijay Singh | 68 |
| Ernie Els | 68 |
| John Senden | 69 |
| Francesco Molinari | 69 |
| Soren Hansen | 69 |
| J.B. Holmes | 69 |
| Paul Casey | 69 |
| Dustin Johnson | 69 |
| Tim Clark | 70 |
| Jim Furyk | 70 |
| Martin Kaymer | 70 |
| Jerry Kelly | 70 |
| Padraig Harrington | 70 |
| Luke Donald | 70 |
| Matt Kuchar | 71 |
| Phil Mickelson | 71 |
| Sean O'Hair | 71 |
| Henrik Stenson | 71 |
| Anthony Kim | 71 |
| Bill Haas | 71 |
| Yuta Ikeda | 71 |
| Simon Dyson | 72 |
| Edoardo Molinari | 72 |
| W.C. Liang | 72 |
| Lucas Glover | 72 |
| David Toms | 72 |
| Camilo Villegas | 72 |
| Gonzalo Fernandez-Casta | 72 |
| Alvaro Quiros | 72 |
| Geoff Ogilvy | 72 |
| Ian Poulter | 72 |
| Alistair Presnell | 72 |
| Hunter Mahan | 72 |
| Jason Dufner | 73 |
| Y.E. Yang | 73 |
| Nick Watney | 73 |
| Ross Fisher | 73 |
| Kenny Perry | 73 |
| Steve Stricker | 73 |
| Mike Weir | 73 |
| Thongchai Jaidee | 73 |
| Miguel Angel Jimenez | 73 |
| Peter Hanson | 74 |
| Soren Kjeldsen | 74 |
| Lee Westwood | 74 |
| Angel Cabrera | 74 |
| Graeme McDowell | 74 |
| Heath Slocum | 74 |
| Ben Crane | 74 |
| Sergio Garcia | 74 |
| Adam Scott | 74 |
| Brian Gay | 74 |
| Steve Marino | 75 |
| Michael Sim | 75 |
| Stewart Cink | 75 |
| Anders Hansen | 76 |
| Ross McGowan | 76 |
| Scott Verplank | 76 |
| Retief Goosen | 76 |
| Rory McIlroy | 76 |
| Zach Johnson | 76 |
| Marc Leishman | 78 |
| Kevin Na | 78 |
| Oliver Wilson | 78 |
| Robert Karlsson | 78 |
| Ryan Palmer | 79 |

# CWGA first tourney of 2010 this Saturday

The CNMI Women's Golf Association will hold its March tournament today, March 13, at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort.

Tee time for the ladies competition at the west course of the Kagman facility is 11:30am with tee off set an hour later at 12:30pm.

For more information about the January golf tournament of CWGA, call Noriko Togawa at 287-0027, Lou Kim at 483-5255, Terry Tudela at 483-1761, Lorraine Babauta at 287-0621, and Bennet Seman at 483-0126.

Established in March 2007, CWGA is a nonprofit organization founded to promote, encourage, and introduce women to the sport of golf in the CNMI.

The organization intends to accomplish the following: 1. Promote civic and community interest in golf; 2. Establish and encourage competition and good sportsmanship; 3. Promote and provide social functions of the members and their families; 4. Promote youth golf activities; and 5. To do any or all things necessary and proper to accomplish its purpose and intention.

CWGA also commits its members to abide by a set of values that will further enrich a golfer's performance, attitude, and conduct-adopted form the USA Junior Golf Association.

The set of values members of CWGA are committed to faithfully are as follows: perseverance; sportsmanship; respect; honesty; judgment; responsibility; reliance; courtesy; and sincerity. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

## KELVIN

*From Page 28*

14 players consistently attending the five times a week training sessions until his arrest on March 5.

The 26-year-old Fitial was arrested for allegedly beating up Scot Thompson along Beach Road near The Flair, a night club in Garapan. Thompson told police that Fitial punched him several times for no apparent reason and the former sustained a black eye from the assault.

Fitial posted bail for his temporary liberty and can still train with the CNMI National pool, but there's no assurance he will be joining the team to Palau in August.

The burly player is hoping to don the colors of the CNMI Men's Nationals for the third time. In 2006, he was on the CNMI squad that competed in the 2006 Micronesian Games Saipan hosted. The Commonwealth cagers, who were also coached by Aguon, finished fifth behind Guam, Palau, Marshalls, and Kosrae.

Last year, Fitial had his second tour of duty for the CNMI, representing the Commonwealth to the FIBA Oceania Basketball Tournament, which Saipan also hosted. In the FIBA tournament, Fitial tried holding his own against the much taller and beefier players of Australia, New Zealand, and New Caledonia.

His decent showing in the FIBA caging and consistent participation in local leagues earned him an invitation to try out for the CNMI Men's Nationals this year. However, his recent run-in with the law may affect his chances to play for the team for the third time.

## SLLB

*From Page 28*

rero (.667), and Northern's Frank Norita (.667), Jeremy Atalig (.636).

Completing the list were the Northern's Roy Tudela (.556). Patriots' Kent Kalen (.556), Ol'Aces' Frankie Camacho (.545), Survivors' Jose Lizama Jr. (.500), Patriots' Jared Sablan (.500), Red Sox's Alex Monkeya (.500), Ol'Aces' Jeremy Lizama (.444), TSL A's David Ada (.444), and Survivors' Desmond Abraham.

TSL A's Jared Lizama occupied the No. 1 spot in the pitching race. He pitched five innings, allowed only two hits, and gave up one run in an error-free stint at the mound for a 0.00 ERA. In second place was Jose Lizama Jr. (0.58), followed by TSL A's Keene Guerrero (1.66), Pats' Jeremy Rabauliman (.233), Red Sox's Jonathan Cabrera (2.47), Ol'Aces A.J. Lizama (2.80), Fielders' James Aldan (3.71), Northern's Frankie Lieto (3.71), Pats' Jared Sablan (4.77), and Lions' Catalina Dela Cruz (5.00).

A.J. Lizama led the Junior League in strikeouts with 25 in 15 innings pitched.

### Senior League

Four tied for the lead in pitching race with D-9ers' Zachary Aldan, Hunters' Joseph Palacios and Patrick Aguon, and Ol'Aces' Jake Santos posting identical 0.00 ERA. Completing the list were Fielders' Patrick Tenorio (1.31), Hustlers' McGarette Duenas (3.00), Lions' Dominic Chargualaf (3.00), Hustlers' Jeremy Lizama (3.23), Ol'Aces' Harry Nakamura (3.50), and Fielders' Nathan Guerrero (4.67), and Carlos Camacho (5.25).

Aldan was also on top of the batting race with his average of .667. Fielders' Peter Tenorio was in second place (.583), followed by Lions' Greg Iskawa (.571), Fielders' Marvin Ngeskebei (.538), Lions' Richard Dela Cruz (.500), Nakamura (.500), Ol'Aces' Lamarc Iguel (.444), Fielders' Patrick Tenorio (.444), Hunters' Joseph Palacios (.444), Duenas (.444), Lions' Leo Blas (.400) and Ricardo Dela Cruz (.333), and Hunters' Eloy Cruz (.250).

### Big League

D-9ers secured the Top 2 spots in the batting race in the Big League.

Wally Emul went 5-for-8 at bat as of March 9 and averaged .625. Teammate Eric Tenorio was second with his.500 after going 4-for-8.

Rounding out the Top 10 were Fielders' Juan Maratita (.455) and Ben Flores (.455), Ol'Aces' Ryan Lisua (.429), Juan Iguel (.429), and Mike Iguel (.400), Fielders' Tom Agulto (.400), D-9ers' Chad Atalig (.375), D-9ers' Dave Camacho (.286), Ol'Aces' Eli Aughenbaugh (.286), D-9ers' Isaiah Lizama (.222), and Fielders' Wensner Namelo (.222).

In the pitching race, the Falcons' Joshua Jones, Fielders' Agulto, and D-9ers' Dave Hones are tied with 0.00 ERA. Fielders' Ionis Rasa finished second with his 1.00, followed by D-9ers' Clyde Sablan (1.40) and Ol'Aces' Jimmy Brel (3.00) and Augenbaugh (8.08).

## NOT

*From Page 28*

egos in Texas. If not for a nasty dispute over blood testing, it might have filled Cowboy Stadium and given Jones the kind of megafight he believes his new $1.2 billion edifice rightfully deserves.

Instead, he had to settle for the hottest fighter in the game. He got Pacquiao, but even a salesman like Jones can't fool anyone into believing Joshua Clottey is Mayweather.

So he's selling Pacman. He's selling the event which, appropriately enough, is titled "The Event."

Mostly, he's selling his stadium.

"This is going to be big time," Jones said. "I'm going to over-deliver."

That should make the 45,000 fans expected to show up Saturday night happy, and it will certainly please de facto boxing boss Ross Greenburg and promoter Bob Arum. They couldn't put together the fight that everyone wanted, but, between the show in Dallas and the May 1 show featuring Mayweather against Shane Mosley in Las Vegas, they've rebounded to produce a decent substitute.

They've also gotten a new ally for the sport in Jones, who is already better at selling fights than he is at picking wide receivers.

"The thing that's blown me away is what an unbelievable promoter this guy is," Arum said. "He never gets tired. We took a two-day trip to Mexico and he was able to drink everybody under the table and kept going. He gave dozens and dozens of interviews to Mexican media outlets. It's really something to see."

Dallas is hardly Las Vegas, of course, and once the novelty act that is the stadium starts to wear thin Jones will need a better matchup to fill so many seats. Clottey is a fine enough fighter, but he's never sold a ticket on his own, and oddsmakers make him a 5-1 underdog in the welterweight bout against a fighter who seems to get better with each fight.

But his plan to invite Cowboys of old and present, toss in a few cheerleaders and show it all on the huge overhead screens that will reveal every drop of sweat, should be more than enough to make it a memorable evening, if not a great show.

It should also be enough to get respectable pay-per-view numbers, something that Greenburg, head of sports at HBO, watches closely.

"Just the curiosity of seeing a 20-by-20 foot ring in that massive stadium should attract some attention," Greenburg said. "That, plus Jerry Jones as the co-promoter and the star power of Pacquiao, is what really makes this an event."

Greenburg thought he would be putting on a pay-per-view for the ages this weekend with a Pacquiao-Mayweather fight that would have done huge numbers. But even he couldn't get Mayweather to back off on blood testing demands that eventually killed the bout.

"It took me two to three weeks just to get over a pretty frustrated and sad state," Greenburg said. "I knew we were on the cusp of generating so much mainstream interest in boxing. We were hitting on all cylinders and got a flat tire. It was definitely a wound."

The wound is already starting to heal. The Pacquiao-Clottey fight is drawing plenty of attention, and the Mayweather-Mosley fight is such a good matchup that it doesn't need a glittering new stadium to boost sales.

And, of course, if both Pacquiao and Mayweather win, there likely will be another chance to making this fight happen sometime in the fall.

"Hopefully, calmer and more rational business minds can sit at a table and resolve the negotiations if that happens," Greenburg said. "Right now we have to look positively at what we have. We've got two conference championship games now, and hopefully we can have a Super Bowl."

The football analogy works for Jones, who sees a lot of parallels between the sport and boxing. He also sees a lot of business potential in mixing the two, particularly in reaching the Hispanic fans who tend to watch boxing in higher numbers than any other demographic.

Jones didn't get the fight he really wanted, but he's throwing a party anyway. Arum, meanwhile, is getting a sidekick who could give a lot of boxing promoters a run for the money if he didn't already have a day job.

Told the other day that Jones sells standing room only tickets in his new stadium for Cowboy games and calls them "party passes," Arum was almost beside himself.

"He's the best promoter I've ever run into," Arum said. "Party passes for standing room only? What a genius!"

## PACIFIC

*From Page 28*

gross scores from any of the qualifying rounds will be used to determine the make-up for the five-team CNMI golf delegation to the 2011 Pacific Games.

The fifth player of the team will serve as player/coach and at least three alternates will be selected to replace a member or members of the team in case of injury or other reasons.

Alternates will be required to attend all of the team's practice rounds. Green fees at any of the qualifying round will be paid by each player and each player will also be asked to donate $10 per round for the club's Pacific Games fundraising effort.

RGA said golfers who can take part in the qualifiers should be a U.S. citizen and must have resided in the CNMI for not less than five years.

In related news, the CNMI golf team is looking for corporate or individual sponsors for the CNMI golf team. Those willing to become sponsors, can call Jeff Taylor at 483-2513 or e-mail jefftaylor@dfs.com, Jordan Kosam at 483-4506 or e-mail rgamarianas@gmail.com, Jess Wabol at 288-1129, and Edward Manibusan 235-6520 or e-mail emlaw@pticom.com. ***(PR)***

Magic roll past Bulls as Rose sprains wrist

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Sources: Woods likely to return at Masters

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# Kelvin is out

## of consideration for CNMI Nationals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Kelvin Fitial's chances to suit up for the CNMI Men's Nationals who will compete in the 2010 Micronesian Games is dim for now, following his arrest last week.

CNMI Men's Nationals coach Rufino Aguon when asked about the possible sanction against Fitial, who was arrested for assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace, said the 6-foot-3 forward/center can't be a member of the 10-team squad for now.

"At this time, Kelvin has been advised that he is out of consideration until this incident is resolved. But he is still welcome to train with the rest of the guys until then," Aguon said.

Fitial is among the 25 CNMI players invited to join the series of tryouts Aguon is conducting to select the 10 cagers who will represent the Commonwealth to the Micro Games.

The first tryout started on Jan. 28 at the Northern Marianas College and Fitial is one of the

See KELVIN on Page 27

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Kelvin Fitial, center, is out of consideration for the CNMI Nationals for now, following his arrest last week.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Docomo Patriots' Christian Mizer leads the Junior League in batting race.

## SLLB names batting, pitching pace-setters

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Little League Baseball has released the list of batting and pitching leaders in the Junior, Senior, and Big League after about a month of competition at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

In the Junior League, the Docomo Patriots' Christian Mizer led the batting race as of March 6 with his average of .875, built on a 7-for-8 at bat. Completing the Top 5 were Ol'Aces' A.J. Lizama (.786), Northern's Brandon Dela Cruz (.750), Ol'Aces' Shane Deleon Guer-

See SLLB on Page 27

## Not a Super Bowl, but Pacquiao an event

BOXING

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—The czar of boxing was so devastated the fight didn't happen, it took him weeks to get over it.

The (not Don) King of promoters was so mad he could barely utter Floyd Mayweather Jr.'s name.

And the emperor of Dallas felt like he had just lost the Super Bowl.

"I wanted that fight here with those two fighters worse than my next breath," Jerry Jones said.

The fight, of course, was Mayweather against Manny Pacquiao, and it fell apart despite the frenzied efforts of some of the biggest names in boxing and one of the biggest

See NOT on Page 27

AP

Boxers Manny Pacquiao, second left, and Joshua Clottey, second right, smile while flanked by cheerleaders after a news conference at Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, Texas, Wednesday, March 10, 2010. Pacquiao and Clottey square off in a welterweight bout at the stadium this Saturday.

## Pacific Games qualifiers set

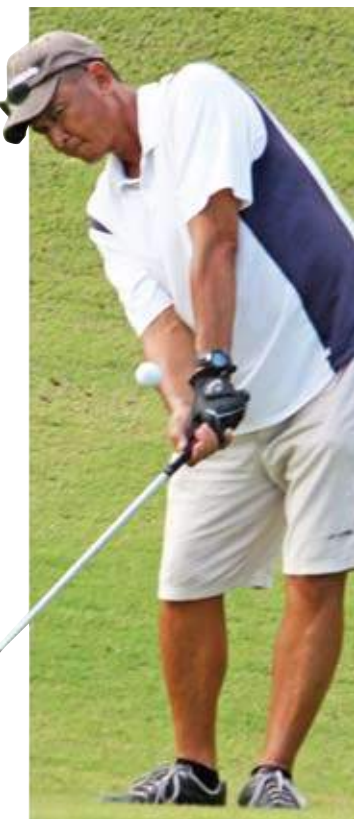
NC 2011 Pacific Attitude

The Refaluwasch Golf Association has scheduled a series of qualifying rounds to determine the players who will represent the CNMI in the 2011 Pacific Games in Noumea, New Caledonia.

The first qualifying tournament is set for March 27 beginning at 10:30am at the Marianas Country Club. The following schedules for the qualifying rounds are on April 17, May 24, June 16, and July 19 at still to be announced times and venues.

RGA said the four lowest

See PACIFIC on Page 27



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Joji Taguchi is seen here competing in a local tournament last year. CNMI golfers are invited to join a series of qualifying tournaments for the 2011 Pacific Games.